

Criteria requirements for FIAP Awards *(updated December 2022)*

INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the requirements to achieve FIAP Awards. It does not set out to explain how you go about applying for those awards. What it does do though is to address any translation issues involved in the original FIAP document. Occasionally the English version of the FIAP Document has defects in translation. Where this occurs the original French version carries supremacy. Therefore, if you do rely of the FIAP document you may, as one or two have done in the past, find your application does not meet certain details of the criteria.

Each of the three FIAP Liaison Officers for the UK are entitled to have their own processes and time scales, therefore candidates from the Scottish Federation and the Welsh Federation should refer to their own Liaison Officer.

For the rest of the UK, PAGB “e-news” and the PAGB web site are used for the dissemination of guidance and advice notes for prospective applicants. The quickest way to get this information is therefore to subscribe to PAGB “e-news”. If you don’t, don’t complain if you miss something.

Only one batch of applications can be submitted to FIAP in any one year. The process opens in late autumn each year, with a deadline date of the 31st March the next year for the completion and full submission of applications to the FIAP Liaison Officer. A downloadable PDF file setting out the procedure and timetable will be posted in late summer. This will invite those who have achieved the criteria to register their interest. There will then be plenty of time to complete the process.

NB:- Applications for the MFIAP distinction are an exception to the previous paragraph. Please see below for further details.

For new exhibitors, and more experienced ones for that matter, some guidelines and advice on how to collate your records, and how to make life easier for yourself by adopting good practices, are to be found in the document “[Working towards FIAP Distinctions](#)” available as a downloadable PDF from the FIAP pages of the PAGB web site.

GENERAL

At this point some explanation may well be useful. Please note that these notes apply to all applications whether for AFIAP, EFIAP or EFIAP Levels applications.

First and foremost; don’t try to second guess the rules. Many people let their imaginations run away with them. If it does not say something is required, then it is not required. So please don’t waste everybody’s time by asking.

Counting Countries:- When assessing how many countries you have achieved, you should be aware that England, Scotland and Wales are regarded as different countries. Each will count towards the required total you have to achieve. This is because, whilst members of PAGB, these federations are also individual Operational Members or National Federations affiliated to FIAP. This includes circuits with different countries within them where the different countries will count, provided that the actual judging of each salon in the circuit takes place in the country allocated to that salon.

Counting Salons:- Reference is made to “circuits”. This is the type of salon that in effect consists of more than one separately selected salon within the one event. So, if you were to enter 4 images into a section of the circuit, they would be subject to selection more than once; for example in the case of the Trierenberg

Super Circuit, four separate times by different panels of Selectors. It is therefore possible for you to gain 16 acceptances from your four entries.

Whilst you can, claim all these acceptances towards the overall number required for your distinction, a "Circuit" only counts as ONE salon for a number of other purposes.

These are:-

- i) When assessing how many salons you have successfully entered in applying for an AFIAP or EFIAP award.
- ii) When applying for AFIAP or EFIAP in making up your Portfolio of 5 images and in EFIAP in relation to the requirement for two awards to be gained with different photographs and that the 2 awards must be from different countries and salons. This prevents the awards requirement being achieved from a single circuit and acceptance numbers for a portfolio image coming from one circuit.
- iii) When you are applying for any of the seven EFIAP Levels Distinctions, in respect of the portfolio requirements for a specified number of awards from a specified number of countries. Therefore no more than one award will count from any one circuit..

AFIAP (Artist FIAP)

Your first acceptance must be received at least 12 months before you can be awarded your AFIAP certificate. In this period you are required to gain:-

- a) At least 40 Acceptances with at least 15 different photographs. For the 2024 submission onwards, 4 different works must have each received at least one acceptance in "Print" salons under FIAP Patronage.
- b) This success must have come from at least 15 different salons with FIAP Patronage, and those salons must be spread over at least 8 different countries.

You will be required to submit a Portfolio of 5 digital image files to FIAP. These must be of photographs that have each received at least 3 acceptances from FIAP Patronised Salons. They must be image files submitted on a CD or via WeTransfer/Dropbox regardless of whether the photographs were exhibited as PDI files or as Prints. You should be aware that these digital files must have a minimum of 3,600 pixels on the longest side. So, if you haven't retained a full sized file capable of this you can't use it in your portfolio. A copy of the portfolio images will be retained by PAGB for potential use in future FIAP Biennial Competitions.

EFIAP (Excellence FIAP)

To apply for EFIAP you must be the holder of the AFIAP Distinction. You cannot receive your EFIAP award until at least 12 months after the date of your AFIAP certificate. You will be required to have gained

- c) At least 250 Acceptances (including those gained at AFIAP) with a total of at least 50 different photographs. For the 2024 submission onwards, 12 different works must have each received at least one acceptance in "Print" salons under FIAP Patronage.
- d) This success must have come from at least 30 different salons with FIAP Patronage, and those salons must be spread over at least 20 different countries.
- e) To have at least two different photographs that have each received at least one award. These awards must have been gained in different salons from different countries.

You will be required to submit a Portfolio of 5 digital image files to FIAP. These must be of photographs that have each received at least 3 acceptances from FIAP Patronised Salons and must include at least two that have received awards as at sub-para e) above. They must also be different and not resemble or be similar to those in your AFIAP Portfolio, but they can be from accepted works in your AFIAP application. They must be image files submitted on a CD or via WeTransfer/Dropbox regardless of whether the photographs were exhibited as PDI files or as Prints. You should be aware that these digital files must have a minimum of 3,600 pixels on the longest side. So, if you haven't retained a full sized file, capable of this you can't use it in your portfolio. A copy of the portfolio will be retained by PAGB for potential use in future FIAP Biennial Competitions.

EFIAP LEVELS

You must be the holder of the EFIAP award before you can apply for an EFIAP Levels award and have held that distinction for at least a year. There are seven “Levels”, Bronze (EFIAP/b), Silver (EFIAP/s), Gold (EFIAP/g) and Platinum (EFIAP/p), Diamond 1 (EFIAP/d1) Diamond 2 (EFIAP/d2) and Diamond 3 (EFIAP/d3) and each must be obtained in sequential order shown here. That means you cannot apply for Silver unless you have achieved Bronze and so on through Gold to Diamond 3. There must also be a twelve month period between applications for different Level awards.

For ALL EFIAP Levels distinctions, since the date on the Applicant’s EFIAP Distinction Certificate, using titles not used for AFIAP or EFIAP, you must have obtained in total at least in International salons under FIAP Patronage:-

For the EFIAP/b	200 Acceptances	with at least 50 different works	from at least 5 countries
For the EFIAP/s	300 Acceptances	with at least 100 different works	from at least 10 countries
For the EFIAP/g	500 Acceptances	with at least 150 different works	from at least 15 countries
For the EFIAP/p	700 Acceptances	with at least 250 different works	from at least 20 countries

So, having achieved Bronze, you then need a further 100 acceptances from 50 more works for Silver, to make the total of 300 from 100, and so on up the scale.

After Platinum, EFIAP Levels distinctions continue with the EFIAP Diamond Distinctions. They require the following accumulation of Awards (any awards whatsoever), that have been gained since the start of 2015 or the date of your EFIAP Platinum Certificate, whichever is the later.

EFIAP Diamond 1	50 awards with 15 different works in 5 different countries
EFIAP Diamond 2	100 awards with 30 different works in 7 different countries
EFIAP Diamond 3	200 awards with 50 different works in 10 different countries

In addition to the above you will also be required to submit a Portfolio of Digital Images on a CD or via WeTransfer/Dropbox (again not less than 3600 pixels on the longest side). The Portfolio must be in the form of digital images regardless of the medium you gained your Acceptances in. These images must be from AWARD winning photographs and to have received awards in a varying number of different countries and different Salons. A copy of the portfolio will be retained by PAGB for potential use in future FIAP Biennial Competitions.

Those requirements are as follows:-

EFIAP Bronze	4 photographs awarded in 4 different countries and different salons
EFIAP Silver	5 photographs awarded in 5 different countries and different salons
EFIAP Gold	6 photographs awarded in 6 different countries and different salons
EFIAP Platinum	7 photographs awarded in 7 different countries and different salons
EFIAP Diamond 1	5 photographs awarded in 5 different countries and different salons
EFIAP Diamond 2	6 photographs awarded in 6 different countries and different salons
EFIAP Diamond 3	7 photographs awarded in 7 different countries and different salons

The awarded photographs required for these portfolios are NOT accumulative and in each case these photographs must be different and not resemble or be similar to those submitted in any earlier Portfolio for any previous successful application for any FIAP Distinction.

MFIAP (Master of Photography FIAP)

This is the highest award for photographic merit that FIAP grants and does require photography of the very highest standard and equates to a “doctorate” in educational terms. You must have been the holder of EFIAP for at least **3 years (ie 36 months)** from the date on your EFIAP certificate before you can be granted MFIAP. In this context remember that MFIAP applications are currently assessed in April each year at the FIAP Directory Board Meeting, ie about two months before EFIAP Certificates are likely to be signed.

If you have already submitted an application and been unsuccessful you must wait for a further **3 years (ie 36 months)** before FIAP will consider any further application. Additionally any one person will only be allowed a total of three applications for MFIAP; ie after two unsuccessful attempts, failure at a third will mean no further application can be made.

For an application you will be required to submit

- i) A complete curriculum vitae using forms prescribed by FIAP
- ii) A Portfolio of 20 PDI (ONLY PDI are allowed). You will also need to submit a CD or via WeTransfer/Dropbox, high resolution electronic file copies of those 20 prints.
- iii) An introductory text that describes the subject and the creative concept of the photographer.

To constitute a portfolio the images must be linked, and must be a coherent and harmonious whole, both in respect of the contents of the images and vision of the author, and in respect of their size and presentation. The choice of idea behind the portfolio is left entirely to the initiative of the candidate, who has the largest possible freedom of expression. The portfolio can be built on a theme, be a sequence; or the illustration of a story. These are examples but not an exhaustive list.

This award is by no means automatic and, unlike all those above, the criteria are much more subjective. Applications are considered by the members of the FIAP Directory Board and are awarded on a simple majority vote of those members. If the award is not made the candidate receives a written explanation for the rejection.

The timetable for MFIAP is different from all the previous awards because they are assessed at one of the Directory Board meetings, and they have to be with FIAP in time for the first Directory Board Meeting each year. Candidates must therefore complete and deliver the completed application to the FIAP Liaison Officer **no later than the preceding 31st December.**

You should contact your FIAP Liaison Officer in plenty of time for him to supply you with detailed instructions and also to allow you enough time to put the application together. As well as guidelines for putting an application together the “Package” he will send you supplies a great deal of detailed information about what will be expected of an applicant’s portfolio (far more than can be included in this article). It is therefore advisable to obtain the “package” BEFORE you start out on the project, as it may save you a lot of wasted time and effort. That being said the “package” will only be sent to holders of the EFIAP Certificate or one of the EFIAP Levels Certificates.