



Diplomate Status (DAASP) and Fellow Status (FACSP)

Credentialing with the AASP demonstrates the member's commitment to excellence in spinecare and, thus, enhances their professional stature with patients, the public and other healthcare professionals.

Members (physicians) and Affiliate Members (non-physicians) have the possibility of achieving academic distinction through their organizations (American Academy of Spine Physicians, American College of Spine Physicians, American Academy of Spine Specialists and American College of Spine Specialists).

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Continuing Education and Credentialing



American Academy of Spine Physicians

An organization of health professionals
dedicated to excellence in spinecare

www.spinephysicians.org

The Academy

The American Academy of Spine Physicians (AASP) is a national organization comprised of healthcare professionals of various disciplines, who are committed to excellence in spinecare. The AASP is one of the largest interdisciplinary spine organizations of its kind. The Academy provides a variety of valuable resources for its members, including continuing education, credentialing, practice development resources and press releases. The AASP is committed to keeping its members informed about available services and technologies.



Commitment to Education

The AASP is dedicated to providing unique and affordable continuing education opportunities for physicians and other healthcare professionals, who care for patients with spine disorders. Special opportunities also are provided for students, interns and residents who are Candidate Members of the Academy. Emphasis is placed on providing cost-efficient and flexible self-study programs. AASP programs are easily accessible, allowing the Academy to reach more healthcare professionals, thus, better serving the public.

The AASP participates in jointly-sponsored activities with organizations and educational facilities, whose goals are compatible with the goals of the Academy. Through education of its members, the AASP can help improve the delivery of spinecare.

Course Formats

The AASP offers flexible continuing education in four primary categories which are:

- Textbook Review Courses
- Online Journal Review Courses
- Case Study Courses
- Other AASP Courses

Coursework

The AASP currently offers over 70 online courses. The courses include topics such as spine anatomy, spine biomechanics, spine pathology and diagnostic methods, as well as, the pathogenesis, diagnosis and care of spinal disorders.

After studying the material for each course, the participant can take the corresponding test online. The test is auto-graded electronically and the results immediately sent to the participant via email. To obtain credit, tests must be passed with a minimum of 80% proficiency. The continuing education opportunities help facilitate cooperative spinecare. Members can choose topics that are timely and that they are most interested in.

Credentialing

The AASP offers credentialing to Members and Affiliate Members who complete the required level of continuing education.

Diplomate status with the American Academy of Spine Physicians (DAASP) is awarded to the physician member, who acquires 300 continuing education credits through the AASP. **Diplomate status** is not offered to Affiliate members. (Refer to Fellow status below).

Fellow status with the American College of Spine Physicians (FACSP) is awarded to those Members (Physicians), who have met the requirements of the Diplomate status and have acquired an additional 200 continuing education credits through the AASP.

Fellow status with the American College of Spine Specialists (FACSS) is awarded to the Affiliate Member (non-physician), who obtains 250 continuing education credits through the AASP.

Benefits of Credentialing

The benefits of credentialing through the AASP include:

- Credentialed status conferred through a respected interdisciplinary organization
- Interdisciplinary recognition of emphasis in conservative and cooperative spinecare
- Commitment to academic excellence in spinecare
- Distinguished credential for managed care
- Provides academic foundation for integrating in a multidisciplinary healthcare setting
- Use of AASP patient and public educational materials, which acknowledge credentialed status



Enhanced Recognition

It is becoming increasingly important for physicians to inform their patients and the public about their expertise. The AASP is committed to helping physicians achieve higher levels of education and credentialing in spinecare. Those who obtain Diplomate status (DAASP) and Fellow Status (FACSP) can use these designations after their name on patient educational material, directory listings and on professional correspondence.

The AASP strives to enhance public recognition of spinecare professionals who have obtained additional training and academic distinction. This is achieved through script forms, publications, press releases and through the online directories.