



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS

SOUTHERN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

Introduction

The SSCI is an organization of clinical investigators, biomedical scientists, and clinician educators, mostly from Southcentral and Southeastern United States, whose goal is to promote quality academic scholarship by conducting an annual meeting, encouraging the participation of young investigators in this meeting, and publishing a monthly journal, *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences*.

Requirements

Fellowship is open to those with MD, PhD, DO, or PharmD degrees based on broad academic criteria that are considered by the Council prior to its annual meeting. The SSCI is interested in attracting Fellows at or above the senior Assistant Professor level who have demonstrated meritorious scholarly activities with promise for, or evidence of, academic leadership. Recognizing that academic medicine has two distinct career pathways, the SSCI has established different selection criteria based on one's primary academic focus. For those whose career emphasizes research (basic science or clinical investigation), criteria such as research independence and originality, publications, independent grant support, and local/regional/national academic recognition will be examined more closely than clinical activities. For clinician educators, criteria such as clinical teaching responsibilities, curriculum development, academic leadership appointments, scholarly activities, and recognition as a clinical academic authority will be weighed more heavily than traditional research criteria. The applicant will select which pathway best defines their career path and thus, which set of criteria will be weighed most heavily by the Council. Members of the ASCI and AAP are automatically given membership upon application.

Guiding Principles of Fellowship

Fellows assume an obligation to actively continue in medical scholarship. They shall pay membership dues. They shall have voting privileges and may hold office. They shall receive all regular communications and mailings of the Society. Active Fellows are expected to manifest sustained interest in the Society by attending the annual meeting on a regular basis. At the time new Fellows are notified that they have been elected to be SSCI, the notification will ask them to accept this offer contingent upon the following commitments: (i) attendance at the annual meeting at least two out of every four years; (ii) agreement to pay dues annually; and (iii) participation at a new member orientation session at the next annual meeting attended.

Nomination Instructions

All applicants must be nominated, and their nomination seconded, by Fellows of the SSCI. The seconding letter should be from a Fellow knowledgeable in the nominee's area of work and preferably from an institution separate from the nominee's. These supportive letters should not summarize the nominee's CV but rather focus on the independence, originality, and/or significance of the applicant's scholarly work and academic

contributions. Specific examples should be provided in support of statements made. In addition, the letters should address the nominee's potential for, or experience as, a mentor and academic leader. Comments about the nominee's "citizenship" in the academic and local community as well as his/her likely contributions to the SSCI mission and/or the Southern Regional Meeting are desired.

A complete nomination package consists of:

- Completed one-page "Nomination for Fellowship" form, including selection by the nominee of the pathway that best describes his/her academic career (see Requirements above).
- **A brief statement from the nominee on separate letterhead stating why he/she seeks fellowship in the SSCI.**
- A complete and current curriculum vitae.
- A nominating letter, limited to 2 pages, from a Fellow of the SSCI (see Nomination Instructions above).
- A seconding letter from a Fellow of the SSCI (see Nomination Instructions above).
- A professional, high-resolution photo of the candidate (head/shoulder).

Nomination deadline is August15.