



# INDIAN ACADEMY OF PAIN MEDICINE

## Entry Exam Manual

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**President:** Dr Krishna Poddar. **Hon Secretary:** Dr Anurag Agarwal

# FIAPM Entry Examination Manual

*(For Anaesthesiologists seeking Fellowship in Pain Medicine at IAPM-accredited centres)*

## 1. Introduction

The **Indian Academy of Pain Medicine (IAPM)** conducts the **FIAPM Entry Examination** for Anaesthesiologists aspiring to pursue a **one-year accredited fellowship in Pain Medicine** at recognized centres across India.

This manual is designed to guide candidates through the eligibility criteria, syllabus, exam structure, registration process, fees, and other essential information.

## 2. Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must hold one of the following qualifications in **Anaesthesiology**:

- **MD / DNB / DA / Diploma NBE – Anesthesiology**
- Obtained from an **NMC / NBEMS recognized Medical College / Institute / Hospital**, or
- Equivalent postgraduate qualification in Anesthesiology from **Institutes of National Importance (INIs)** such as **AIIMS, JIPMER, PGIMER Chandigarh**, or other INIs.

## 3. Examination Structure

- **Format:** Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)
- **Number of Questions:** 100
- **Duration:** 2 hours
- **Marking Scheme:** Each correct answer carries one mark; no negative marking.
- **Medium:** English
- **Mode:** [Online](#)

## 4. Syllabus Overview

The syllabus has been carefully designed to assess basic yet essential knowledge in Pain Medicine for fellows:

### A. Basics of Pain Medicine

- Definitions, classifications, and mechanisms of pain (acute vs chronic)
- Nociceptive, neuropathic, nociplastic, and cancer pain

### B. Pain Pathophysiology

- Peripheral sensitization, central sensitization, wind-up phenomenon
- Gate control theory, biopsychosocial model of pain

### C. Chronic Pain Medications

- WHO analgesic ladder
- Opioids, NSAIDs, anticonvulsants, antidepressants
- Adjuvant drugs: muscle relaxants, corticosteroids, ketamine
- Prescribing guidelines & safety concerns

### D. Interventions (Basics)

- **Spine:** Epidural Neuroplasty, facet joint MIPSI, caudal Neuroplasty, Radiofrequency ablation, Discography
- **Joint:** Shoulder, hip, knee, SI joint infiltration
- **Cancer Pain Interventions:** Neurolytic MIPSI, Coeliac plexus Neurolysis

### E. Cancer Pain

- Assessment of cancer pain
- Palliative care principles
- Opioid rotation and breakthrough pain management

### F. Spine and Joint Pain Basics

- Common conditions: disc herniation, spinal stenosis, spondylosis, osteoarthritis
- Basic approach to chronic back pain and large joint pain

## **G. Knowledge of ISSP & IAPM**

- Aims, objectives, and structure of ISSP (Indian Society for Study of Pain) and IAPM
- Functions, memberships, academic and fellowship activities
- **ISSP Terminologies of Procedures** – standardized naming of pain interventions

## **5. Examination Fees & Payment**

- **Examination Fee:** Rs. 5500 + 18% GST + Gateway charges
- **Mode of Payment:** Online only
- **Registration Link:** <https://www.issp-pain.org/entry-exam-of-iapm-fellowship-iapm/>

## **6. Stipend & Fellowship Training**

- Candidates who successfully qualify will be placed at **IAPM-accredited centres** based on **merit ranking**.
- **Stipend:** Provided as per IAPM regulations.

## **7. Counselling & Admission Process**

### ☐ **Mode of Counselling**

- Counselling will be conducted **online only through the official WhatsApp group** created for examinees.
- All candidates must ensure they have joined the designated group

### ☐ **Counselling Sessions**

- There will be **two rounds of counselling**, conducted at an interval of **2 days**, starting **2–4 days after the result declaration**.
- Candidates will be called for counselling strictly in the order of **merit rank**.

#### ☐ **Mop-Up Counselling**

- A **Mop-Up Counselling** session will be conducted after the last date of fee deposition, for any vacant fellowship seats.
- This will be the **final opportunity** for seat allocation.

#### ☐ **Centre Allotment**

- Fellowship centres will be allotted strictly on **merit basis and candidate preference** during counselling.
- **No application for change of centre will be entertained** under any circumstances once the allotment is made.

#### ☐ **Joining Dates**

- Candidates allotted fellowship seats must join their respective centres within the following joining periods:
  - **July Batch:** 1st – 15th July
  - **January Batch:** 1st – 15th January

#### ☐ **Failure to Join**

- Failure to join within the stipulated joining period will lead to **forfeiture of seat and fees**, and the candidate will be debarred from the future exam for one year.

## **7. Accredited Centres**

- Fellowship training is conducted at **IAPM-accredited centres** across India.
- Allocation is strictly merit-based after qualifying the entrance exam.
- A detailed list of centres with number of seats is available on the **IAPM official website**. <https://www.issp-pain.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/IAPM-Centre-List2.pdf>

## 8. Documents Required for Application

Candidates must upload / submit scanned copies of the following documents at the time of **online registration**:

1. **MBBS Degree Certificate** (from an NMC-recognized medical college/institute)
2. **Postgraduate Qualification in Anesthesiology**
  - MD / DNB / DA / Diploma NBE Certificate
3. **ISSP Life Membership Number / Proof of Membership**
4. **NMC or State Medical Council Registration Certificate** (valid and up to date)
5. **Government-issued Photo ID Proof** (Aadhaar / Passport / Driving License / PAN card).

## 9. Registration & Contact Information


For **registration queries** or further details, contact:

**Dr. Pankaj N Surange**

Registrar, Indian Academy of Pain Medicine (IAPM)

453, Main Road, near State Bank of India,

Sector 19, Pocket 1, Dwarka, Delhi, 110075

 Mobile: 093112 23922

Online Registration Form: <https://www.issp-pain.org/entry-exam-of-iapm-fellowship-iapm/>

## 10. Important Information & Exam Instructions

1. **Exam Timing & Portal Access**
  - The examination date and time will be **fixed as per the declared schedule**.
  - The **exam portal will remain open for 3 hours (1100 hrs – 1400 hrs)**.

- **Exam duration is 2 hours only.**
- The portal will automatically close at **1400 hrs sharp**, regardless of when a candidate logs in.

## 2. Responsibilities of the Candidate

- Adjustment of clinical duties or personal schedules is the **sole responsibility of the examinee.**
- Reliable **internet access** and computer readiness must be ensured by the candidate.
- **Details uploaded on the official website are final.** Candidates must visit the website regularly for updates.

## 3. Cancellation & Refund Policy

- **Once approved by the review committee, the exam fee is non-refundable.**
- Under exceptional circumstances (serious ill health of the candidate or death of an immediate family member), a **refund request** may be submitted to the Registrar with supportive documents.
- Refund rules as per IAPM GC approval:
  - **From date of approval to 2 weeks before the exam:** 50% refund (excluding portal charges).
  - **From 2 weeks before the exam up to the exam day:** No refund.
- Exam fees will **not be carried forward** to the next exam under any circumstances.

## 4. Communication & Updates

- Candidates must provide a **WhatsApp number at the time of registration.**
- A **dedicated WhatsApp group** will be created for updates.
- Please save +**91-9311223922** as “*IAPM Registrar Office*”. Candidates will receive a request to join the group from this number.

## 5. Finality of Instructions

- Candidates must thoroughly read and understand this manual before the exam.

- **Any discrepancies or errors** should be reported to the Examination Committee **through the Registrar, IAPM, prior to the examination.**
- **No clarifications, concerns, or objections will be entertained after the examination under any circumstances.**

## 11. FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

**Q1. Is it mandatory to take Life Membership of ISSP to take the IAPM entrance exam?**

Yes, Life Membership of ISSP is mandatory.

**Q2. How can I become an ISSP member quickly to apply for the exam?**

You can apply for Life Membership online through the ISSP official website.

**Q3. Will stipend be provided during the training period?**

Yes, stipend is provided as per IAPM regulations.

**Q4. Once I pass the exam, how is the fellowship centre allotted?**

Fellowship centres are allotted strictly on the basis of ranking and Counselling process.

**Q 5 Will I be provided with answer keys after the exam?**

No, answer keys will **not** be provided. Candidates will be given their **final marks only**, and based on these, a **merit list** will be declared.

## 12. Important Links

- **IAPM Official Website:** <https://www.issp-pain.org/education/iapm-2/>
- **ISSP Official Website:** <https://www.issp-pain.org/>
- **Online Registration Form:** <https://www.issp-pain.org/iapm-entrance-exams-2025/>



- **ISSP Life Membership Application:** <https://www.issp-pain.org/membership/apply-online/>
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