



INDIAN ACADEMY OF PAIN MEDICINE

Entry Exam Manual

Dean: Dr. Pradeep Jain. **Registrar:** Dr. (Major) Pankaj N Surange
President: Dr. Sanjay Khanna. **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-](https://www.issp-pain.org/entry-exam-of-iapm-fellowship-iapm/)
- [pain.org/entry-exam-of-iapm-fellowship-iapm/](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/2026/03/Centre-2026-july.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**
 - o 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**
 - o The examination date and time will be **fixed as per the declared schedule**.
 - o The **exam portal will remain open for 3 hours (1100 hrs – 1400 hrs)**.

- o **Exam duration is 2 hours only.**

- o The portal will automatically close at **1400 hrs sharp**, regardless of when a candidate logs in.

2. Responsibilities of the Candidate

- o Adjustment of clinical duties or personal schedules is the **sole responsibility of the examinee.**

- o Reliable **internet access** and computer readiness must be ensured by the candidate.

- o **Details uploaded on the official website are final.** Candidates must visit the website regularly for updates.

3. Cancellation & Refund Policy

- o **Once approved by the review committee, the exam fee is non-refundable.**

- o 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.

- o 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.

- o Exam fees will **not be carried forward** to the next exam under any circumstances.

4. Communication & Updates

- o Candidates must provide a **WhatsApp number at the time of registration.**

- o A **dedicated WhatsApp group** will be created for updates.

- o Please save **+91-9311223922** as "*IAPM Registrar Office*". Candidates will receive a request to join the group from this number.

5. Finality of Instructions

- o 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/>
-