



Benefits of Membership in the ICO (and How to Apply)

Membership in the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) offers societies the opportunity to:

- Speak for your country or subspecialty in the “parliament” of international ophthalmology, the ICO General Assembly, with the right to vote and propose new initiatives
- Participate in defining the future of international ophthalmology and in improving and enhancing our profession
- Help preserve and strengthen ophthalmology as a single specialty, rather than as many fragmented societies with different agendas
- Give ophthalmology a stronger voice to those who influence and set health priorities and policy related to eye care around the world, including WHO
- Provide input into ICO programs, including the scientific program of the World Ophthalmology Congress and ICO International Clinical Guidelines
- Provide input into ICO policies and guidelines, such as curricula for training of ophthalmologists, medical students and allied eye care personnel and the Research Agenda for Global Blindness Prevention
- Provide guidance for improving ophthalmology residency training, subspecialty training and continuing professional development of ophthalmologists
- Meet, communicate and share experiences with the leaders of ophthalmological societies and eye care organizations from around the world
- Keep informed of news and developments in international ophthalmology beyond your specific area of interest
- Increase the recognition of your Society, its Congresses and programs
- Participate in and support other efforts to enhance ophthalmic education and preserve and restore vision for the people of the world.

What is expected of ICO Members

- Provide input into ICO policies, programs and initiatives
- Name an official Representative (preferably an officer who will have some continuity) to participate the ICO General Assembly at the World Ophthalmology Congress every two years
- Pay dues of 3 Swiss Francs per member per year.

How to apply for membership in the ICO

Submit an application (see http://www.icoph.org/about/ico_membership.html) to:

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