

# EyeLights eNews



February 2021

## President's Message



Dear Certificants,

Our 2021 New Year is off to a good start with many of our ophthalmic professionals already receiving the vaccine! This achievement is a positive message on the outlook for this new year.

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Peter Evans, MD, one of IJCAHPO's six founders and an admired leader, supporter of the JCAHPO Foundation, and active with us through our 50th Anniversary celebration in 2019. Dr. Evans was truly one of our ophthalmic technician profession's greatest champions for your education and certification!

We would love to see you, our certificants, more involved with IJCAHPO, your Certification and Education organization. Learn more about volunteering in one of IJCAHPO's many committees and task forces under our IJCAHPO Updates section below. Also, we have a new format for our newsletter this month - just click on the articles of interest to bring you the latest updates on IJCAHPO's programs.

I hope everyone will take advantage of the vaccine when it is offered to you. Until then, stay safe and healthy. Best regards for a happy and prosperous new year, and we look forward to the opportunity of seeing everyone at ACE this fall in New Orleans!

Neil Choplin, MD, President

### ***In Memory of Dr. Peter Y. Evans***

It is with great sadness we share the passing of Peter Y. Evans, MD, on Thursday, December 17. Dr.



Peter Evans, MD

Evans was one of IJCAHPO's founding members, a Past President, the first Executive Vice President, and a true champion of technician education. He was also the architect of the Georgetown University Ophthalmic Medical Personnel Training Program in Washington, DC.

As a charter member, Dr. Evans was instrumental in establishing IJCAHPO's core certification standards; education and CE credit policies; the International Council of Accreditation's (formerly the Commission on Accreditation of Ophthalmic Medical Programs, CoA-OMP) accreditation policies; and training program to on-the-job training equivalencies. Dr. Evans was a day away from celebrating his 95th birthday. We are grateful he was able to celebrate IJCAHPO's 50th anniversary with us in San Francisco, CA, at the 2019 ACE program.

If you would like to make a donation in memory of Dr. Peter Evans, we invite you to donate to the Peter Y. Evans, MD, Scholarship Fund or the Marina V. Evans Armstrong, COMT, Memorial Endowment Fund, which honors his late daughter. [Donate here.](#)



Bruce Stark, MD; Lynn Anderson, PhD, CEO;  
Helga Evans; Peter Evans, MD

## IJCAHPO Updates



- **ACE 2020 Harold A. Stein, MD Lecture Recording Now Available as a Free Resource**
- **New Feature on IJCAHPO's Career Center**
- **Call for Clinical Site Partners for Accredited Ophthalmic Training Programs**
- **Volunteer Virtually with IJCAHPO**
- **Help Reduce the Spread of COVID-19 With an IJCAHPO Mask**

**Free Resource Now Available!** ACE 2020 Harold A. Stein, MD Lecture, ***COVID-19 and Other Emerging Infectious Diseases***, Presented by Gary N. Holland, MD

Did you miss IJCAHPO's Annual CE Program and our Keynote Address? Tune into this free educational resource on COVID-19! *Note: No CE credits are provided.*

Dr. Holland's Keynote Address is most opportune with the world's impact from the growth of SARS-CoV-2, and COVID-19, the disease it causes. In this pre-recorded lecture, Dr. Holland addresses:

- the latest epidemiologic information and current knowledge about modes of virus transmission.
- use of personal protective equipment, appropriate modifications of the workplace and strategies to reduce the risk of infections during clinical activities.
- how Allied Health Personnel play a critical role in the ability to care for patients safely.
- the growing SARS-CoV-2 pandemic (the COVID-19) and related topics important for healthcare workers.
- the infrequent ophthalmic manifestations of SARS-CoV-2 infection, the potential impact of the pandemic on the future of eye care, as well as a general overview of vaccine development and treatments for COVID-19.

His presentation concludes with a discussion of previous epidemics and pandemics of importance to eye care providers, including those involving AIDS, Ebola and Zika, and how those outbreaks have informed our approach to the current SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

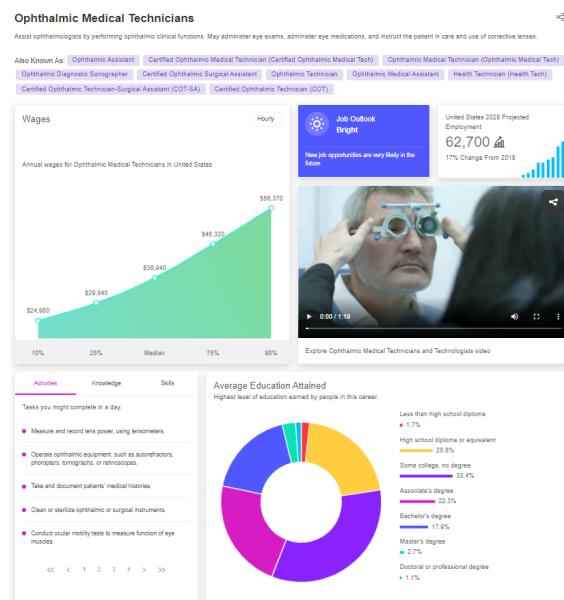
[Register for this free resource today!](#)

## New Feature on IJCAHPO's Career Center

The IJCAHPO Career Center is now your ultimate Career Planning Destination. Check out our new Career Insights feature where you can dig deeper into data about potential careers – giving you the insights you need to move forward.

You can find:

- Career descriptions
- Activities performed in each role
- "Day in the life" video
- Typical education levels for each role
- Salary data
- Occupational outlooks
- Employment statistics using local, state, and nationwide averages



[Check it out now!](#)

## Call for Clinical Site Partners for Accredited Ophthalmic Training Programs

Is your clinic interested in training future ophthalmic technicians? The International Council of Accreditation (ICA) has training programs that are searching for new clinical sites to send their students to for hands-on clinical training. Programs would like to hear from your practice! View the list of accredited training programs on [ICA's website](#) and contact the listed program director for more information. Questions? Contact ICA at [ica@icaccreditation.org](mailto:ica@icaccreditation.org).

## Volunteer Virtually with IJCAHPO

Would you like to be more involved in IJCAHPO and with other colleagues in the profession? There are many ways to be involved, from volunteering on a committee, presenting a course, to instructing a Learning Lab. IJCAHPO invites you to volunteer on our new Education, Certification, or Career Development Task Forces, to help shape the future of the Allied Ophthalmic Personnel (AOP) profession. Your commitment will be short-term, typically conducted during an after-work hours conference call or at a future face-to-face meeting; and you will be asked to serve on a task force appropriate to your certification level and area of interest.

If you are interested, please send an email to [volunteer@jcahpo.org](mailto:volunteer@jcahpo.org) with your name, address, certification, area of interest, and contact information, including your preferred phone number and email address. We will contact you about your interest with specific information.

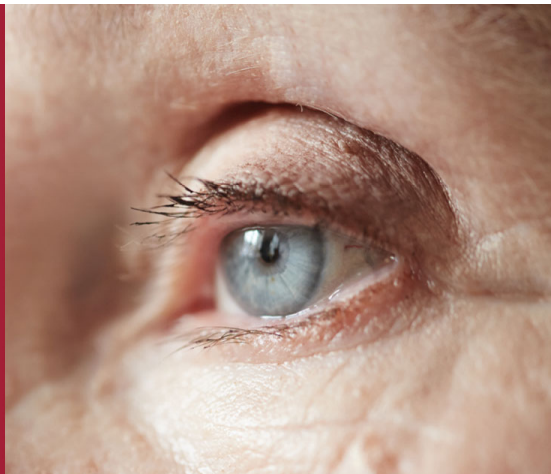
## Help Reduce the Spread of COVID-19 With an IJCAHPO Mask

IJCAHPO is pleased to offer Certified and Non-Certified face masks to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. The face masks are reusable, washable and individually wrapped. [Purchase your mask today for only \\$5.00!](#)



### February is Age-Related Macular Degeneration Awareness Month

Getting regular exams from an ophthalmologist is critical to catching the eye disease, AMD, early.



## Certification



- **NEW!** Visual Fields Certificate of Completion
- Non-Certified Status Update
- Recertification Fee Increase Announcement

### **NEW!** Visual Fields Certificate of Completion



The IJCAHPO Certification Department is pleased to offer the Visual Fields Certificate of Completion!

The Visual Fields Certificate of Completion examination is open book and consists of 100 multiple-choice questions, designed to test the knowledge of Allied Ophthalmic Personnel in the visual field areas of:

- Procedures
- Measurements
- Screening
- Pathological Defects
- Perimeters
- Confrontation Testing

[Access the Visual Field Certificate of Completion here.](#)

Compliment your purchase of the Visual Fields Certificate of Completion with the purchase of the comprehensive **Visual Fields** book authored by Neil T. Choplin, MD and Russell P. Edwards, MD.

**Visual Fields** provides a foundation of visual fields including description, common terminology, and anatomy. Specifically, the authors highlight how lesions within the visual pathways give rise to visual field defects. In addition, the book outlines the methods of testing, from basic to advanced emphasizing efficiency in clinical settings. An entire chapter is dedicated to common errors in visual field testing and ways to minimize them. The final section includes an atlas of common visual field defects due to glaucoma, neurological disease, and other medical conditions.

[Access the Visual Field Certificate of Completion + Visual Fields book here.](#)

## Thinking about waiting to recertify?

IJCAHPO certificants who do not apply for recertification or miss the recertification deadline, will be placed on non-certified status. Individuals who are placed on non-certified status are not permitted to present themselves as IJCAHPO certificants and they may not utilize the credential after their name on business cards, stationery, name badges, etc.

Effective August 1, 2021, from the time the individual is placed on non-certified status, **they will now have 6 months rather than 12 months** to apply for recertification before their credential is placed in revoked status.

Within that 6-month time-period, the number of continuing education credits required to recertify does not increase, but a late fee will be assessed. Individuals will not receive a new certification date if they recertify within the 6-month non-certified period. For example, if the individual is due to recertify in December 2021, but does not recertify until May 2022, the recertification cycle will remain December 2021 to December 2024. If the non-certified status continues longer than 6-months, the individual's certification will be considered revoked. Individuals in revoked status are required to contact the IJCAHPO Certification Department for reinstatement options. Retesting may be required.

## Recertification Fee Increase Announcement

As a not-for-profit certification body, the International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel (IJCAHPO) works to keep our costs as low as possible in all areas and minimize fees for our applicants. IJCAHPO, for the first time in over 20 years, will be increasing the recertification fee. Beginning August 1, 2021, the cost to recertify will change from \$115 to \$125. The fee increase is approximately \$3.33 per year for your 3-year recertification cycle.

Your commitment to becoming and staying certified through recertification is important to you, your patients and employer.

1. **Certification demonstrates commitment to your profession.** Obtaining IJCAHPO certification and recertifying shows your patients and your employer your commitment to your career in ophthalmology. Certification sets you apart as a leader.
2. **Certification enhances the overall image of the profession.** IJCAHPO certification programs seek to grow, promote, and develop certified Allied Ophthalmic Professionals who “stand out” as examples of excellence in the industry. Think of those you admire in ophthalmology and make note of the credentials they display, with pride.
3. **Certifications are portable.** IJCAHPO credentials can travel with you anywhere and can open doors to employment opportunities you may not have even considered yet.
4. **Certification builds self-esteem.** IJCAHPO certifications create a performance standard for Allied Ophthalmic Personnel. You will see yourself as a certified professional who has control over their own professional destiny and find a deep sense of personal satisfaction, pride, and accomplishment.
5. **Certification establishes professional credentials.** Since it recognizes your individual accomplishments, certification stands above your résumé, serving as an impartial, third-party endorsement of your knowledge and expertise. When the public looks for individuals qualified to perform certain services, they seek individuals – like you – who have achieved certification.
6. **Certification improves career opportunities and advancement.** Certification gives you the “edge” when being considered for a promotion or other career opportunities. Certification clearly identifies you as a person who can adapt to changes in work, technology, business practices, and innovation.
7. **Certification helps you market your services.** Since IJCAHPO certification is a voluntary professional commitment to the industry, certification is a clear indicator of your willingness to invest in your own professional development. The process of maintaining your certification exposes you to the changing ophthalmic environment and provides you with the tools needed to anticipate and respond to those changes.
8. **Certification improves skills and knowledge.** Achieving certification highlights your individual competence by confirming proficiency, knowledge, and career commitment.
9. **Certification offers greater professional recognition from peers.** Hear that applause? It is all for you! As a certified ophthalmic professional, you can expect increased recognition from your patients, peers, and employer for taking that extra step in your professional development!

IJCAHPO is committed to providing you with superior customer service and products that support your certification and educational needs. We appreciate you and your commitment to ophthalmology.

## Education



- **NEW! Compliance Training Courses: 10 for only \$99**
- **Upcoming Webinars and Events**

[Winter AOP Symposium - February 27, 2021](#)

[Utah Virtual CE Program - February 27, 2021](#)



IJCAHPO is bringing OSHA approved standards to you. We have added 10 new Compliance Courses to meet your clinic's needs and stay current.

**List of courses:**

Active Shooter Response  
Bloodborne Pathogens for Healthcare Workers  
Hand Hygiene  
Hazard Communication for Healthcare  
HIPAA Privacy & Security for Covered Entities  
Infection Control for Healthcare Professionals  
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Healthcare Workers  
Preventing Workplace Violence in Healthcare Settings  
Slips, Trips and Falls  
TB Protection for Healthcare Workers

Purchase these courses on the [EyeCareMarketplace](#).

## Upcoming Webinars and Events

### Webinars

[Non-Accidental Trauma: Evaluate/Document/Testify - February 02, 2021](#)  
[What Every Technician/Scribe Needs to Know About Coding Changes for 2021 - February 09, 2021](#)  
[Fluorescein Angiography Training Module Update - February 16, 2021](#)  
[Eye Bank Prepared Tissue: The Surgery Starts Here - February 23, 2021](#)  
[What's That? Description of OCT and FA - March 02, 2021](#)  
[Managing Headache Disorder - March 09, 2021](#)

### Events

[Winter AOP Symposium - February 27, 2021](#)  
[Utah Virtual CE Program - February 27, 2021](#)  
[Rochester Virtual CE Program - April 10, 2021](#)  
[Spring AOP Symposium - May 14, 2021](#)  
[San Antonio, TX Virtual CE Program - May 14, 2021](#)  
[Retina Tech Trax - June 19, 2021](#)  
[Florida Continuing Education Program - July 09, 2021](#)

# JCAHPO Foundation



- **ACE Scholarship Campaign Success**
- **Hear from an ACE Scholarship Recipient!**

- **Are You Seeking Financial Assistance With Certification, Recertification, or Continuing Education? Apply For a Scholarship or Grant**

## **ACE Scholarship Campaign Success**

This fall, the JCAHPO Education and Research Foundation launched a campaign to provide continuing education scholarships to ophthalmic technicians who were adversely affected by COVID-19. The Foundation successfully awarded full registration scholarships to all eligible applicants to IJCAHPO's Annual Continuing Education program.

## **Hear from an ACE Scholarship Recipient**



*"I believe that education can open many doors; however, success relies on the initiative. I always have the desire and determination to enrich my career, but lack of financial backing was an obstacle.*

*This scholarship awarded me the opportunity to boost my knowledge, gave me the means to learn from the best in ophthalmology, and a chance to train myself and continue my education without leaving my clinic. Receiving this award allows me to make a difference in the ever-changing and challenging world of eye health care. This scholarship gives me more motivation to maintain a high personal standard for my academic success."*

**- Eman A.**

## **Apply for a Scholarship or Grant**

Are you seeking financial assistance with certification, recertification, or continuing education? Apply for a scholarship or grant with the JCAHPO Foundation.

Applications are now being accepted for the following:

### **Grants**

[Continuing Education Grant](#) – Grants are awarded towards registration fees to IJCAHPO continuing education programs and courses.

[American Glaucoma Society Grant](#) – Vouchers are awarded towards certification examination fees. Preference goes to Ophthalmic Technicians working in Glaucoma clinics.

### **Scholarships**

[Phil H. Weber Memorial Scholarship](#) – Scholarships are awarded towards IJCAHPO approved training programs, certification, or continuing education fees. Must be an ATPO member to apply.

[Barbara Cassin Scholarship](#) – Scholarships are awarded to students in a COMT training program to be used towards the COMT certification exam and/or program tuition.

[Jennie B. Busch Education and Certification Scholarships](#) – Scholarship are awarded towards certification examination fees, program registration and travel costs, and for students in an accredited training program.

### **Prizes and Awards**

[Harold A. Stein, MD, FRCSC, Prize for Best Scientific Paper](#) – All Allied Ophthalmic Personnel (AOP) are invited to submit a scientific paper on your choice of any ophthalmic



topic.

[Virginia S. Boyce Humanitarian Award](#) – Nominations accepted to recognize an AOP who demonstrates leadership and a commitment to volunteerism and public service.

## Tech Corner




- **Technicians Across the US Celebrated AOP Week in November**





(bimatoprost implant) 10 mcg  
For intracameral administration



Not an actual patient.

Discover the DURYSTA™ Difference

HERE



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*We want to make EyeLights a valuable resource to you. We appreciate your feedback on what you want to know more about and how to make the next one more valuable to you and the profession. Please email us: [jcahpo@jcahpo.org](mailto:jcahpo@jcahpo.org).*

2025 Woodlane Drive · St. Paul, Minnesota 55125-2998  
Phone: 651-731-2944 · Toll Free: 800-284-3937 · Fax: 651-731-0410 · [www.jcahpo.org](http://www.jcahpo.org)  
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