

## ICO Exam 2025

In partnership with Wills and Wilmer, we are launching the Ophthalmology Foundation exam, with the first sitting scheduled for March 26, 2025, followed by a second on September 24, 2025. This internationally recognised, online exam is designed to assess knowledge in three critical areas: Visual Sciences, Optics, Refraction and Instruments, and Clinical Ophthalmology. To ensure global accessibility, the exams will be available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Mandarin.

We are also in discussions with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh to establish a partnership that would allow candidates who pass all three sections of the exam to advance to a clinical examination. Successful candidates will be awarded the Post Nominal Acronym of Fellow of the International Ophthalmology Foundation (FIOF) and will earn points towards an Ophthalmology Foundation Fellowship application, further enhancing their professional credentials.

This initiative is a significant step forward in our mission to elevate the standards of ophthalmic education and practice globally. It also represents an excellent opportunity for professionals to enhance their credentials and for institutions to support their candidates in achieving international recognition.

- **What does it assume to become an exam center?**

To become an exam center, you'll need to meet specific logistical and technological requirements, which are outlined in the attached form. This typically involves having a suitable space with internet access and ensuring candidates can use their own devices that meet the exam's technical specifications.

- **What are the steps for an online examination?**

The process for an online examination involves several key steps. First, candidates must ensure their devices meet the technical requirements. They will then apply and confirm their readiness via an online platform which will be accessible via the OF website. On the exam day, candidates will log in to the exam platform and complete the exam under controlled conditions as per the guidelines provided.

- **What are the taxes for Romanian candidates?**

The fees applicable to Romanian candidates are shown below. These fees are based on the World Bank Index and are designed to be as accessible as possible.

- Visual Sciences: 450 USA, Optics, Refraction, and Instruments: 300 USA, Clinical Ophthalmology 650 USD

- **How can the fees be paid, individually or as a collective payment?**

Fees can be paid individually by each candidate via the online portal. We are looking at setting up a three month payment system whereby candidates can secure their place with an initial payment and then make two subsequent payments over the following two months.