

FIAP Distinctions

the recognition of
photographic achievements...



FIAP DISTINCTION SERVICE

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Director

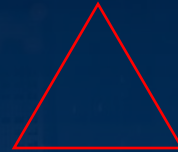
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FIAP distinction regulations 2026 (DOC 047/2025)

Traditional
Photographic
FIAP
Distinctions



New FIAP
Distinctions:
Novice
EFIAP d4-d8
Portfolio
Grandmaster

Traditional
Administrative
Distinctions



New
Administrative
Distinctions





Traditional Photographic FIAP Distinctions





Rationale for updating Distinction Regulations in 2026

The current regulations for photographic distinctions, last revised in **2016**, are now overdue for an update to better reflect the contemporary landscape of international photography. Over the past decade, several notable developments have taken place:

- The number of salons organized worldwide has increased from 500 to 700, which has led to a corresponding rise in the number of awards distributed, affecting the perceived exclusivity of certain distinctions.
- The global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic prompted FIAP to permit online judging as a standard practice, a shift that has since become widespread and integral to the evaluation process.
- The acceptance rate for distinctions has increased from 25% to 30%, indicating a broader acceptance but also raising questions about maintaining the value and prestige of these recognitions.



Traditional
Photographic
FIAP
Distinctions

Rationale for updating Distinction Regulations in 2026

These factors highlight the necessity for a comprehensive review and revision of the distinction rules in 2026. Updating the regulations will help ensure that they remain relevant, uphold high standards, and continue to promote excellence in photography amidst evolving global practices and opportunities.



Distinction	Acceptances * cumulative	Countries **	Works ***
NFIAP	25	5	10
AFIAP	75 + 50	15 + 10	20 + 10
EFIAP	200 + 125	20 + 5	40 + 20
EFIAP/b	400 + 200	25 + 5	80 + 40
EFIAP/s	600 + 200	30 + 5	130 + 50
EFIAP/g	900 + 300	35 + 5	200 + 70
EFIAP/p	1200 + 300	40 + 5	300 + 100

At this stage (after EFIAP/p), all previously received awards will be reset except for those awards obtained one year before having received the EFIAP/p (date of certificate). Those can be used unless they have already been utilized for the EFIAP/p distinction. Starting from EFIAP/d1 authors are obliged to use new photographs.

	Awards * cumulative	Countries **	Works ***
EFIAP/d1	50	10	15
EFIAP/d2	100 + 50	15 + 5	30 + 15
EFIAP/d3	200 + 100	20 + 5	60 + 30
EFIAP/d4	350 + 150	25 + 5	100 + 40
EFIAP/d5	500 + 150	30 + 5	150 + 50
EFIAP/d6	650 + 150	35 + 5	200 + 50
EFIAP/d7	800 + 150	40 + 5	250 + 50
EFIAP/d8	950 + 150	45 + 5	300 + 50



Traditional
Photographic
FIAP
Distinctions

- From NFIAP to EFIAP/p :
acceptances are cumulative
(no more “break” after EFIAP)
- Starting with EFIAP/d1 : applicants use new photographs which had not been valorised for previous distinctions; all previously received awards will be reset except for those awards obtained one year before having received the EFIAP/p (date of certificate). Those can be used unless they have already been utilized for the EFIAP/p
- No more minimum number of salons
- No more requirements for print acceptances
(decided by referendum at the beginning of 2025)



Traditional
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! Hint !

Applicants collecting acceptances and awards for their EFIAP/p distinction should only keep the awards relevant to their EFIAP/p distinction. Any awards obtained at least one year prior to the EFIAP/p and not yet used should be preserved for meeting the requirements of the EFIAP/diamond 1 distinction (“not yet used” means : not mentioned on page C of approved EFIAP and EFIAP/p applications).



Distinction	Acceptances *	Countries **	Works ***
NFIAP	25	5	10
AFIAP	75	15	20
EFIAP	200	20	40
EFIAP/b	400	25	80
EFIAP/s	600	30	130
EFIAP/g	900	35	200
EFIAP/p	1200	40	300

At this stage (after EFIAP/p), all previously received awards will be reset except for those awards obtained one year before having received the EFIAP/p (date of certificate). Those can be used unless they have already been utilized for the EFIAP/p distinction. Starting from EFIAP/d1 authors are obliged to use new photographs.

	Awards *	Countries **	Works ***
EFIAP/d1	50	10	15
EFIAP/d2	100	15	30
EFIAP/d3	200	20	60
EFIAP/d4	350	25	100
EFIAP/d5	500	30	150
EFIAP/d6	650	35	200
EFIAP/d7	800	40	250
EFIAP/d8	950	45	300



Traditional
Photographic
FIAP
Distinctions

- Starting from 2026 a photo/work cannot have more than 10 acceptances/awards listed on the application form. Acceptances/awards for salons with patronage numbers earlier than 2026 can have more than 10 acceptances listed.



Example:

Q.: If a photograph “A” already had 9 acceptances before 2026, does that mean it can still receive up to 10 additional acceptances starting from 2026 (for a total of 19)? Or, if the photograph had already reached, for example, 15 acceptances before 2026, can a further 10 still be counted under the new rule?



Traditional
Photographic
FIAP
Distinctions

As of 1st January 2026, once a photograph has reached the limit of 10 acceptances/awards, no further acceptances/awards for that image can be counted, regardless of how many it had before that date.

So if a photo had 9 acceptances before 2026, it still can have 1 not 10.

If a photo had 15 acceptances before 2026, it cannot have more (but the 15, as they have been achieved before 2026, can be accounted for in 2026 and later).



Traditional
Photographic
FIAP
Distinctions

MFIAP

- Minimum requirement for MFIAP is EFIAP/platinum
- No more restriction in the number of times people will apply for MFIAP
- The application process will go through a platform where pictures will be uploaded by the participant

(with the online approval of the FIAP LO)





Traditional
Photographic
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Distinctions

MFIAP

- Exceptionally, FIAP will allow individuals to apply for the MFIAP distinction a second time in 2025. The official closing date will be announced soon through FIAP notifications.



New FIAP
Distinctions:
Novice
EFIAP d4-d8
Portfolio
Grandmaster



New FIAP
Distinctions:
Novice
EFIAP d4-d8
Portfolio
Grandmaster



Novice FIAP - NFIAP

Distinction	Acceptances *	Countries **	Works ***
NFIAP	25	5	10
AFIAP	75	15	20
EFIAP	200	20	40
EFIAP/b	400	25	80
EFIAP/s	600	30	130
EFIAP/g	900	35	200
EFIAP/p	1200	40	300

- Novice FIAP or NFIAP, a new distinction, easier to achieve, for newcomers or photographers eager to enter the group of FIAP members bearer of a FIAP distinction.
- Application via a form that has to be checked by the FIAP LO (same procedure as in the old rules).
- No charge (appeal to national federations: please support FIAP in promoting this new distinction for newcomers and young photographers by not requesting a national fee).
- Applicants will have the choice to apply for NFIAP or directly for AFIAP (fee) if their records match.
- Acceptance points starting from 2025 events.



New FIAP
Distinctions:
Novice
EFIAP d4-d8
Portfolio
Grandmaster



	Awards *	Countries **	Works ***
EFIAP/d1	50	10	15
EFIAP/d2	100	15	30
EFIAP/d3	200	20	60
EFIAP/d4	350	25	100
EFIAP/d5	500	30	150
EFIAP/d6	650	35	200
EFIAP/d7	800	40	250
EFIAP/d8	950	45	300



Portfolio FIAP - PFIAP

New FIAP
Distinctions:
Novice
EFIAP d4-d8
Portfolio
Grandmaster

Distinction	Portfolios noncumulative
PFIAP	1 portfolio of 10 images
PFIAP/b	2 portfolios of 10 images each
PFIAP/s	3 portfolios of 10 images each
PFIAP/g	4 portfolios of 10 images each
MPFIAP	5 portfolios of 10 images each

- making a shift from the well known global “acceptance and award hunts” in FIAP salons to a particular approach towards each individual photographer : the new FIAP Portfolio distinctions
- The application process will go through a FIAP platform where pictures will be uploaded by the participant (with the online approval of the FIAP LO)
- 3 reviewing sessions per year
limited to 15 applicants per country per session



New FIAP
Distinctions:
Novice
EFIAP d4-d8
Portfolio
Grandmaster

Distinction	Portfolios
PFIAP	1 portfolio of 10 images
PFIAP/b	2 portfolios of 10 images each
PFIAP/s	3 portfolios of 10 images each
PFIAP/g	4 portfolios of 10 images each
MPFIAP	5 portfolios of 10 images each

- different themes for all applications
- reviewers will have insight in previously sent themes
- 5 international portfolio reviewers : minimum EFIAP / p resp. MFIAP with an international judging experience of at least 30 FIAP certified events



New FIAP
Distinctions:
Novice
EFIAP d4-d8
Portfolio
Grandmaster



GMFIAP – Grandmaster FIAP

- Automatically awarded after having achieved MFIAP and MPFIAP





Traditional Administrative Distinctions



ESFIAP

The distinction "Excellence for Services Rendered" (ESFIAP) is awarded to those persons who have given exceptional service over a long period at an international level for the benefit of FIAP. The ESFIAP distinction is awarded to judges who have judged 30 salons organized under FIAP Patronage.

HonEFIAP

The HonEFIAP distinction is awarded by FIAP to individuals who have made exceptionally significant and long-lasting contributions to the development, promotion, and prestige of FIAP worldwide.





New Administrative Distinctions





Lifetime Achievement Award

- the initiative and the decision belongs to the FIAP Board

LAAFIAP : This award aims to honor all individuals who have distinguished themselves in an exceptional way through their constant dedication and persistent efforts, and who have devoted a significant part of their lives to FIAP and the overall development of artistic photography.





Honorable Member

- the initiative and the decision belongs to the FIAP Board

HMFIAP : This honorary title is reserved for individuals who are not members of FIAP but who have rendered outstanding services or significant support to the Federation. Recipients may include government representatives, cultural promoters, renowned photographers, or other personalities who have contributed exceptionally to the development or visibility of FIAP's mission and values.



“Cheat sheet for photographers”



Distinctions of cat. A

(collect acceptances and awards in FIAP salons)

Starting point can be either
NFIAP or AFIAP

1 year interval
between each step

NFIAP*
AFIAP
EFIAP
EFIAP/bronze
EFIAP/silver
EFIAP/gold
EFIAP/platinum
EFIAP/diamond 1
EFIAP/diamond 2
EFIAP/diamond 3
EFIAP/diamond 4
EFIAP/diamond 5
EFIAP/diamond 6
EFIAP/diamond 7
EFIAP/diamond 8

Apply by filling out form and
transmitting to FIAP liaison officer
(find a current list of LO's [here](#))
Have you got your
FIAP Photographer number yet?
(find the link to apply for your
FIAP LIFE CARD
[here](#) (before taking the FLC be sure
to be in line with
national requirements)

FIAP DISTINCTIONS BECOME PART OF IT !

Consult [FIAP DOC 047/2025](#)



MFIAP

(after having achieved EFIAP/platinum)



Distinctions of cat. B
(for MFIAP: presentation of a 20 pictures portfolio)

Apply by uploading
portfolio(s) here.
Have you got your
FIAP Photographer number yet?
(find the link to apply for your
FIAP LIFE CARD
[here](#) (before taking the FLC
be sure to be in line with
national requirements)
(FIAP liaison Officer
will approve online)

GMFIAP

(automatically awarded when MFIAP and MPFIAP achieved)

Distinctions of cat. C

(presentation of
10 pictures portfolios)

1 year interval
between each step

PFIAP
PFIAP/bronze
PFIAP/silver
PFIAP/gold
MPFIAP

*free of charge, no acceptances or awards previous to 2025

FIAP DISTINCTIONS BECOME PART OF IT !

Consult [FIAP DOC 047/2025](#)



Distinction	Acceptances *	Countries **	Works ***
NFIAP	25	5	10
AFIAP	75	15	20
EFIAP	200	20	40
EFIAP/b	400	25	80
EFIAP/s	600	30	130
EFIAP/g	900	35	200
EFIAP/p	1200	40	300
At this stage (after EFIAP/p), all previously received awards will be reset except for those awards obtained one year before having received the EFIAP/p (date of certificate). Those can be used unless they have already been utilized for the EFIAP/p distinction. Starting from EFIAP/d1 authors are obliged to use new photographs.			
	Awards *	Countries **	Works ***
EFIAP/d1	50	10	15
EFIAP/d2	100	15	30
EFIAP/d3	200	20	60
EFIAP/d4	350	25	100
EFIAP/d5	500	30	150
EFIAP/d6	650	35	200
EFIAP/d7	800	40	250
EFIAP/d8	950	45	300

Starting from 2026 a photo/work cannot have more than 10 acceptances/awards listed on the application form. Acceptances/awards for salons with patronage numbers earlier than 2026 can have more than 10 acceptances listed. Be advised that no more prints are requested.

Candidates must provide **five** photographic works ... :

for **NFIAP**: at least 2 acceptances in **3 different countries**,
(the five provided pictures must have achieved 2 acceptances in 3 different countries and must be mentioned on page A of the application form)

Image 1 : 2 acceptances with 1 acceptance in **country A**

Image 2 : 2 acceptances with 1 acceptance in **country B**

Image 3 : 2 acceptances with 1 acceptance in **country C**

Image 4 : 2 acceptances with 1 acceptance in any country

Image 5 : 2 acceptances with 1 acceptance in any country

for **AFIAP** and **EFIAP**: at least 3 acceptances in **5 different countries**,
(the five provided pictures must have achieved 3 acceptances in 5 different countries and must be mentioned on page A of the application form)

Image 1 : 3 acceptances with 1 acceptance in **Country A**

Image 2 : 3 acceptances with 1 acceptance in **Country B**

Image 3 : 3 acceptances with 1 acceptance in **Country C**

Image 4 : 3 acceptances with 1 acceptance in **Country D**

Image 5 : 3 acceptances with 1 acceptance in **Country E**

FIAP DISTINCTIONS BECOME PART OF IT !

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Distinction	Acceptances *	Countries **	Works ***
NFIAP	25	5	10
AFIAP	75	15	20
EFIAP	200	20	40
EFIAP/b	400	25	80
EFIAP/s	600	30	130
EFIAP/g	900	35	200
EFIAP/p	1200	40	300

At this stage (after EFIAP/p), all previously received awards will be reset except for those awards obtained one year before having received the EFIAP/p (date of certificate). Those can be used unless they have already been utilized for the EFIAP/p distinction. Starting from EFIAP/d1 authors are obliged to use new photographs.

	Awards *	Countries **	Works ***
EFIAP/d1	50	10	15
EFIAP/d2	100	15	30
EFIAP/d3	200	20	60
EFIAP/d4	350	25	100
EFIAP/d5	500	30	150
EFIAP/d6	650	35	200
EFIAP/d7	800	40	250
EFIAP/d8	950	45	300

Starting from 2026 a photo/work cannot have more than 10 acceptances/awards listed on the application form. Acceptances/awards for salons with patronage numbers earlier than 2026 can have more than 10 acceptances listed. Be advised that no more prints are requested.

Candidates must provide **five** photographic works ... :

for **EFIAP/b** to **EFIAP/p**: at least an award in **5 different countries**, (the five provided pictures must have achieved 1 award in 5 different countries) and must be mentioned on page A of the application form)

Image 1 : awarded in **Country A**

Image 2 : awarded in **Country B**

Image 3 : awarded in **Country C**

Image 4 : awarded in **Country D**

Image 5 : awarded in **Country E**

for **EFIAP/d1** to **EFIAP/d5**: at least 2 awards in **5 different countries**, (the five provided pictures must have achieved 2 awards in 5 different countries) and must be mentioned on page A of the application form)

Image 1 : twice awarded with 1 award in **Country A**

Image 2 : twice awarded with 1 award in **Country B**

Image 3 : twice awarded with 1 award in **Country C**

Image 4 : twice awarded with 1 award in **Country D**

Image 5 : twice awarded with 1 award in **Country E**

FIAP DISTINCTIONS BECOME PART OF IT !

Consult [FIAP DOC 047/2025](#)



Distinction	Acceptances *	Countries **	Works ***
NFIAP	25	5	10
AFIAP	75	15	20
EFIAP	200	20	40
EFIAP/b	400	25	80
EFIAP/s	600	30	130
EFIAP/g	900	35	200
EFIAP/p	1200	40	300

At this stage (after EFIAP/p), all previously received awards will be reset except for those awards obtained one year before having received the EFIAP/p (date of certificate). Those can be used unless they have already been utilized for the EFIAP/p distinction. Starting from EFIAP/d1 authors are obliged to use new photographs.

	Awards *	Countries **	Works ***
EFIAP/d1	50	10	15
EFIAP/d2	100	15	30
EFIAP/d3	200	20	60
EFIAP/d4	350	25	100
EFIAP/d5	500	30	150
EFIAP/d6	650	35	200
EFIAP/d7	800	40	250
EFIAP/d8	950	45	300

Starting from 2026 a photo/work cannot have more than 10 acceptances/awards listed on the application form. Acceptances/awards for salons with patronage numbers earlier than 2026 can have more than 10 acceptances listed. Be advised that no more prints are requested.

Candidates must provide **five** photographic works ... :

for **EFIAP/d6** to **EFIAP/d8** : at least 3 awards in **5 different countries**, (the five provided pictures must have achieved 3 awards in 5 different countries) and must be mentioned on page A of the application form)

Example:

Image 1 : three times awarded with 1 award in **Country A**

Image 2 : three times awarded with 1 award in **Country B**

Image 3 : three times awarded with 1 award in **Country C**

Image 4 : three times awarded with 1 award in **Country D**

Image 5 : three times awarded with 1 award in **Country E**

The corresponding acceptances/awards must be listed on page A of the application form.

Portfolio FIAP - PFIAP

Distinction	Portfolios noncumulative
PFIAP	1 portfolio of 10 images
PFIAP/b	2 portfolios of 10 images each
PFIAP/s	3 portfolios of 10 images each
PFIAP/g	4 portfolios of 10 images each
MPFIAP	5 portfolios of 10 images each

- **Upload** by the
15th January, by the
15th May and by the
15th October of each year.
- Approval is given online by the FIAP liaison officer.
- 15 participants maximum per country per distinction will be accepted on each of these 3 dates (applications of previous participants that were refused and that reapply are not included).

FIAP DISTINCTIONS
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- The Portfolios must have a **theme**. The title should briefly describe the theme and must be in English or French language. See examples of themes in FIAP DOC 047/2025.
- Images and themes submitted for the various Portfolios distinctions must be distinct from one another and not similar. They must have different titles. **Same or similar images cannot be used in different portfolios.**
- Pictures used for successful MFIAP portfolios cannot be used. Other pictures awarded in FIAP salons and used for distinctions (other than Portfolio distinctions) can be used.
- If a portfolio distinction is not accepted, the candidate may reapply for the specific theme that was not approved, during the next submission periods. A minor supplementary fee will apply. After one year of refusal, the initial complete fee must be paid again.
- The **date on the certificate** will reflect the most recent closing date used to finalize the selection.

Q.1: If someone starts with the free NFIAP title, will he need to pay the distinction fee when applying for AFIAP the following year?

A.1: Yes, AFIAP always requires a distinction fee, even if the person previously held NFIAP.

Q.2: Is the counting of acceptances for EFIAP levels (e.g., EFIAP/b) cumulative from AFIAP or NFIAP onwards, or does it restart at each level?

A.2: The counting is cumulative. Acceptances accumulate from AFIAP or NFIAP up to EFIAP/p.

Note:

Applicants must transfer the data from page C of their approved EFIAP application into their most recently approved EFIAP level application, merging the records. They should then add only the new acceptances and awards. A fresh count is required only when applying for the Diamond distinctions

Q.3: If a photograph “A” already had 9 acceptances before 2026, does that mean it can still receive up to 10 additional acceptances starting from 2026 (for a total of 19)? Or, if the photograph had already reached, for example, 15 acceptances before 2026, can a further 10 still be counted under the new rule?

A.3: As of 1st January 2026, once a photograph has reached the limit of 10 acceptances/awards, no further acceptances/awards for that image can be counted, regardless of how many it had before that date.

So if a photo had 9 acceptances before 2026, it still can have 1 not 10.

If a photo had 15 acceptances before 2026, it cannot have more (but the 15, as they have been achieved before 2026, can be accounted for in 2026 and later).

Q.4: Is the table showing the requirements for distinctions of category A (NFIAP – EFIAP/p) cumulative?

A.4: Yes.

Q.5: Are England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland considered one country or four separate ones?

A.5: They are counted as four separate countries.

Note:

This is due to the fact that these operational members — such as Malaysia Sabah and Malaysia Selangor — joined FIAP many years ago, at a time when no official national operational member existed in their respective countries. Since then, and in accordance with the old statutes, they have retained their status as independent operational members.

Q.6: With the new rules, can an applicant submit for MFIAP one year after achieving EFIAP/p? And in case of refusal, how many times can he reapply?

A.6: Yes, applicants can apply for MFIAP after obtaining EFIAP/p (no need to wait for a year). In case of refusal, they may reapply after one year — there is no limit to the number of attempts.

Q.7: Does the open access to portfolio distinctions allow individuals to bypass their national federation by submitting applications directly?

A.7: In a country with an Operational Member, applications for Portfolio distinctions have to be approved by the the respective FIAP liaison officer. This must happen in the 10 days following the closing date.

If no action is taken by the L.O. during these 10 days, the portfolio is automatically sent to FIAP.

In case of a refusal, a written justification must be provided. This will be reviewed by the FIAP Board.

In countries without an Operational Member, applicants can apply directly.

FIAP DISTINCTIONS
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Q.8: Is a FIAP Blue Pin relevant when evaluating distinction applications?

A.8: The FIAP Blue Pin is awarded to the best author of a salon, not for a specific photo. It does not count towards distinctions

Q.9: What is the fee charged for a Portfolio submission? What is the supplementary fee charged when the applicant reapplies for a specific theme that was not approved?

A.9:

PFIAP	70 euros
PFIAP/b	70 euros
PFIAP/s	80 euros
PFIAP/g	90 euros
MPFIAP	120 euros
Supplementary fee	30 euros

Q.10: For distinctions of categories A and B, will there be a new form and where can it be downloaded?

A.10: Yes, there will be a new form in October 2025 (for applications starting in 2026). It can be downloaded from fiap.net and from each profile created on myfiap.net.

Q.11: Regarding portfolios, will the diplomas and pins be sent to the organization that approved the application? And if the national federation does not approve it, can an ILFIAP club handle the delivery on behalf of the individual?

A.11: Yes, diplomas and pins of Portfolio distinctions are sent to the Operational Member. ILFIAP clubs are not included in any part of the Portfolio distinction process.

Note:
The regulations clearly state that the federation must always provide a justification for any refusal. If the FIAP Board considers the justification insufficient, further clarification will be requested directly from the Operational Member. Only in the exceptional case where the response is not satisfactory, the FIAP Board may authorize the applicant to proceed independently. In such cases, the diploma would be sent directly to the individual author.

FIAP DISTINCTIONS
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