



PSSA

FIAP DISTINCTIONS - REQUIREMENTS 2026



FIAP (The International Federation of Photographic Art), is an international organization of national associations of photography. More than 85 national associations are members, comprising nearly one million individual photographers.

To honour artistic achievement in the field of photography, FIAP has created the following distinctions which may be applied for by members of PSSA.

Category A – Award based on International Salon Acceptances on FIAP approved Salons

Novice FIAP
Artist FIAP
Excellence FIAP

NFIAP - **New**
AFIAP
EFIAP and EFIAP Levels

Category B – Award for photographers who, beyond having obtained the EFIAP/platinum level, have demonstrated exceptional artistic achievement and a consistent personal style through a cohesive photographic portfolio.

Master FIAP
Grand Master FIAP

MFIAP
GMFIAP – automatically award to members who have achieved the MPSSA and the MPFIAP.

Category C – Portfolio Awards based on a body of work – **New**

Portfolio FIAP

PFIAP and PFIAP Levels

All FIAP distinctions are awarded for life. Holders of a distinction are allowed to append after their names the initials corresponding to the distinction(s) they hold. However in the event where a holder of FIAP distinction(s) commits a serious offence against FIAP or against a national federation affiliated with FIAP, the distinction(s) can be withdrawn by the FIAP Board of Directors. No appeal is allowed.

Only national associations affiliated to FIAP can propose their members as candidates for these distinctions. For those in South Africa, PSSA is the national association and annually its members may submit an application for their name to be proposed for a FIAP distinction. While information is given in the FIAP book, which is available on the FIAP website, please note that applications can only be made through PSSA and the requirements and procedure are as given in this document.

Prior to application all members must have a FIAP Photographers Card and a profile number which may be obtained by registering on the myfiap (www.myfiap.net/user/register/fp) portal. The cost for this is €50-00 plus shipping and Paypal service charges. All successful applicants for FIAP Distinctions will receive updated cards for free.

The closing date for submitting applications to PSSA is 31 March 2026. The cost of the application is made up of two parts - firstly a handling fee of R500-00 which has to be paid when you submit your application to PSSA. Payment should be made into the PSSA account with **your name and FIAP** as the reference:

Account Name:	PSSA
Bank:	ABSA
Account Number:	4052639245
Branch Code:	630-137

If accepted by PSSA, a FIAP Application fee of €70-00 is payable for the AFIAP and EFIAP and €120-00 for the MFIAP. No FIAP Application fee is charged for the NFIAP. The charge for the PFIAP is €70-00.

Young photographers up to the age of 25 can apply for FIAP Distinctions without having to pay the FIAP Distinctions application fee.

A single payment will be made by PSSA and the costs relating to this payment will be split amongst all the applicants. You will be advised of the amount due once it has been paid to FIAP.

The FIAP Distinctions for photographic artistry are divided into 3 categories;

- a) Category A is linked to achievements in FIAP recognized salons.
- b) Category B is intended for photographers who are masters in artistic photography and can demonstrate through a series of photographs.
- c) Category C are the portfolio distinctions which are earned by submitting a body of work that is then reviewed by FIAP.

CATEGORY A

You will need the FIAP patronage number for each salon but we have some good news for you, you can access a list from 2013 – 2025 [here](#).

- The same work submitted to more than one salon or Biennial must always bear the same title.
- Works without title will not be accepted.
- Works gaining 8 points or more in FIAP Biennials may be counted towards distinctions.
- A colour and monochrome rendition of the same image will be seen as one acceptance.
- A maximum of 5 acceptances per image will count.
- One Circuit = One Salon, e.g., Trierenberg Circuit counts as one salon

While one circuit may only be counted as one salon when tallying the different number of salons, the individual acceptances may all be counted with the proviso that only 5 acceptances per image will count.

No difference is made between prints and projected images.

Newcomers may start with either the NFIAP or the AFIAP distinction.

Candidates may not skip a level and may only apply for one level every year.

During the period between the submission of an application and the official response of acceptance, the author is allowed to continue participating in FIAP recognized salons and any acceptances or awards obtained during this interim period may be used in support of future applications.

All acceptances obtained up to the level of EFIAP/d1 are cumulative.

All distinctions in Category A require a panel of 5 images to be submitted and these images must be named as follows:

Name of the files:

UN Code of the Federation (710) + underscore + First name + underscore + Name + underscore + Title of the work + .jpg

Example: 710_Bart_Peeters_Sunrise.jpg

The requirements for each distinction are as follows: (format JPEG, 300 pdi, at least 3600 pixels on the longest dimension and having at least 2 MB in size).

NFIAP	
25 Acceptances in FIAP Salons	
-	First recognized FIAP acceptance must have occurred or date back at least one year.
-	From a minimum of 10 different images of which at least 5 must have 2 acceptances each from different salons
-	From a minimum of 5 different countries

The 5 digital images must be different to each other and not resemble or be similar to any other image.

Each of these images must have obtained 2 acceptances. Acceptances of these images be from at least 3 different countries.

AFIAP	
75 Acceptances in FIAP Salons	
-	First recognised FIAP acceptance must have occurred or date back at least one year or NFIAP Distinction certificate must date back at least one year
-	From a minimum of 20 different images.
-	From a minimum of 15 countries.

The 5 digital images must be different to each other and not resemble or be similar to any other image submitted as part of any previous application for other FIAP distinctions.

Each of these images must have obtained 3 acceptances. Acceptances of these images must be from at least 5 different countries.

EFIAP	
200 Acceptances in FIAP Salons	
-	AFIAP Distinction certificate must date back at least one year
-	From a minimum of 40 different images
-	From a minimum of 20 countries.

The 5 digital images must be different to each other and not resemble or be similar to any other image submitted as part of any previous application for other FIAP distinctions.

Each of these images must have obtained 3 acceptances. Acceptances of these images must be from at least 5 different countries.

EFIAP/b	
400 Acceptances in FIAP Salons	
-	EFIAP Distinction certificate must date back at least one year
-	From a minimum of 80 different images.
-	From a minimum of 25 countries.

The 5 digital images must be different to each other and not resemble or be similar to any other image submitted as part of any previous application for other FIAP distinctions.

Each of these images must have obtained at least 1 award. Acceptances of these images must be from at least 5 different countries.

EFIAP/s	
600 Acceptances in FIAP Salons	
-	EFIAP/b Distinction certificate must date back at least one year

-	From a minimum of 130 different images
-	From a minimum of 30 countries.

The 5 digital images must be different to each other and not resemble or be similar to any other image submitted as part of any previous application for other FIAP distinctions.

Each of these images must have obtained at least 1 award. Acceptances of these images must be from at least 5 different countries.

EFIAP/g	
900 Acceptances in FIAP Salons	
-	EFIAP/s Distinction certificate must date back at least one year
-	From a minimum of 200 different images
-	From a minimum of 35 countries.

The 5 digital images must be different to each other and not resemble or be similar to any other image submitted as part of any previous application for other FIAP distinctions.

Each of these images must have obtained at least 1 award. Acceptances of these images must be from at least 5 different countries.

EFIAP/p	
1200 Acceptances in FIAP Salons	
-	EFIAP/g Distinction certificate must date back at least one year
-	From a minimum of 300 different images
-	From a minimum of 40 countries.

The 5 digital images must be different to each other and not resemble or be similar to any other image submitted as part of any previous application for other FIAP distinctions.

Each of these images must have obtained at least 1 award. Acceptances of these images must be from at least 5 different countries.

After the EFIAP/p all previous awards will be reset except for those awards obtained one year before the date of the EFIAP/p certificate. Starting from the EFIAP/d1 authors are obliged to use new photographs.

EFIAP/d1	50 awards with 15 different works in 10 different countries
EFIAP/d2	100 awards with 30 different works in 15 different countries
EFIAP/d3	200 awards with 60 different works in 20 different countries
EFIAP/d4	350 awards with 100 different works in 25 different countries
EFIAP/d5	500 awards with 150 different works in 30 different countries
EFIAP/d6	650 awards with 200 different works in 35 different countries
EFIAP/d7	800 awards with 250 different works in 40 different countries
EFIAP/d8	950 awards with 300 different works in 45 different countries

The 5 digital images must be different to each other and not resemble or be similar to any other image submitted as part of any previous application for other FIAP distinctions.

For EFIAP/d1 to EFIAP/d5 each image must have at least 2 awards in 5 different countries,

And for EFIAP/D6 TO EFIPA/D8 each image must have at least 3 awards in 5 different countries.

The time span between two successful applications must be at least one year.

CATEGORY B

MASTER FIAP (MFIAP)

One digital collection of 20 images must be submitted.

Each image must have the following properties:

Format JPEG 300 dpi, best quality, at least 3600 pixels on the longest side of the image and having at least 2MB

Must also include a complete curriculum vitae using forms prescribed by FIAP, and must include a portrait photo of the candidate.

An introductory text must also be included that describes the subject and the creative concept of the photographic artist.

Please contact Jenny Stilwell for submission dates.

GRANDMASTER FIAP (GMFIAP)

This distinction is granted automatically to the author who has achieved the MFIAP and MPFIAP distinctions.

CATEGORY C

Distinctions in Category C are earned by submitting a series of pictures (portfolio) that is then reviewed on quality and coherence.

No previous FIAP Distinctions are required.

The time span between two successful applications of distinctions of category C is at least one year.

Please contact Jenny Stilwell for submission dates.

Distinctions	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
PFIAP/p	5 Portfolios of 10 images each

The images must be coherent and show a good level in Artistic Photography. Each theme must have either color or black & white pictures.

Each image must have the following properties: format JPG, 300 dpi, best quality, at least 3.600 pixels on the longest side of the image and having at least 2 MB.

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.