

FAQ: Reporting ICD Fellowship to the Public

Many of our members use Fellowship in the International College of Dentists to distinguish themselves, and rightly so. Over the years, some questions have arisen relating to when and where Fellows may display their affiliation with the world's pre-eminent dental honorary society. This FAQ was put together to clarify some of the more common questions we have received.

Where can I use the initials? The initials F.I.C.D. or M.I.C.D. may be used when such use does not conflict with state law. The attainment of Fellowship status may be indicated in scientific papers, curriculum vitae, resumes, business cards, letterhead, stationery and emails.

Do I have to use the punctuation? Use of punctuation is an editorial choice, and it's up to the Fellow or editor of the publication as to their use.

Can I spell out my Fellowship Status? Certainly! *Fellow, International College of Dentists* is perfectly acceptable. For those who have achieved Master status, the same rule applies: *Master, International College of Dentists* or *Master Fellow, International College of Dentists* is fine.

Can I use them if I am no longer a member? No. The College is a membership-based organization, and as such, resigning Fellowship precludes the continued use of the initials, title or wearing the pin and/or key.

Can I use them in an ad? No. The International College of Dentists is not an academic institution. Because of this, use in advertisements might be construed as a degree, thus misleading a lay person. The American Dental Association Code of Ethics also forbids the use of initials from honorary colleges in advertisements.

What about on my website or a patient newsletter? We encourage the use of the initials and/or affiliation with The College, provided its use is legal and ethical. Announcing your achievement to the world is fine, provided it is not used in such a way as to imply an academic or specialty degree.

I withdrew from Fellowship. Can I list Fellowship on my CV or resume? Yes, however, the dates of Fellowship must clearly be indicated, so as to not imply continued membership in the College.

Can I use the ICD Key symbol or ICD Globe logo? Their recommended usage is similar to that described for the initials. Used ethically, tastefully, and legally, their use is granted to any Fellow or Master in good standing. Please note that these visual images are covered under copywrite law, so their use by an individual who resigns Fellowship is illegal. For your convenience, the official Key symbol and Globe logo are provided below as .jpeg files.

The College encourages you to contact the Section Office should you have any questions regarding proper use of the ICD initials, Key, or Globe.