



## **Elected Fellow Revocation FAQ**

### ***What are the grounds for consideration of Fellow revocation?***

Election as an AAAS Fellow is an honor, and all Fellows are expected to meet the commonly held standards of professional ethics and scientific integrity. In the rare case where an elected Fellow no longer meets this expectation, AAAS will, in its sole discretion, consider revoking Fellow status in cases of proven scientific misconduct, serious breaches of professional ethics, or when the Fellow in the view of AAAS otherwise no longer merits the status of Fellow.

### ***How do I submit a Fellow revocation request?***

AAAS members may submit revocation requests. The revocation request form with instructions may be found [here](#). Please submit this form to [fellowinquiry@aaas.org](mailto:fellowinquiry@aaas.org).

The requestor will need to provide their name, which will be kept confidential from the Fellow, their member number, the name and institution of the Fellow, and the documentation (or links thereto) detailing the Fellow's behavior which warrants reconsideration of Fellow status and the results of an investigation, subsequent sanctions, or actions taken.

### ***If I am the requestor, will my identity be revealed to the Fellow under review? What information will the Fellow be given?***

The identity of the requestor will **not** be revealed to the Fellow under review. The Fellow will be provided with the documentation that the requestor submitted, without revealing the requestor identity so that the Fellow can provide a rebuttal or additional information to the Revocation Panel.

### ***What happens after I submit a revocation request?***

Two to three steps will take place within a matter of weeks and months.

First, Executive Office staff will review the request to ensure it is complete, maintaining confidentiality of the requestor throughout the process. If there are missing components, the requestor will be asked to provide those components.

Second, the Committee on Council Affairs (CCA) will review the request. The CCA are elected members of the Council. They will consider requests on a monthly basis for the first six months of the enacted policy (through April 2019), and then will evaluate the frequency needed to

review future such requests. The CCA may determine whether to dismiss the request or to convene a Revocation Panel to consider the request further. In either case, the requestor will be kept informed of the status of the request.

Third, if a Revocation Panel\* is convened, they will go through the process of reviewing the request, provide the Fellow the opportunity to respond, provide the Fellow's disciplinary section Steering Group the opportunity to respond, and issue a decision.

Once the Revocation Panel issues its decision, the requestor and the Fellow will be informed of the decision.

\*The Revocation Panel will consist of four members of the CCA or the Council.

***Will AAAS perform its own investigation?***

No. AAAS will not serve as an investigative body unless pertinent behavior was reported taking place at a AAAS event, such as the AAAS Annual Meeting.

***How long will the process take?***

For the first six months (from October 2018 to April 2019), the CCA will convene on a monthly basis to review all requests received. If a Revocation Panel is convened, the panel may require four to six months to move through the process and issue a decision.

***What options does the Fellow have if a Revocation Panel proceeds with reviewing a request to revoke their Fellow status?***

A Fellow will be contacted when the Revocation Panel has been convened to review the request, and the Fellow will have the opportunity to respond. The Fellow will also be given the opportunity to resign their Fellow status, should they wish to do so. If they resign their Fellow status and are no longer a Fellow, the Revocation Panel will not proceed with the review and the [Fellows database](#) on the AAAS website will note the resignation. If they do not resign, they will be invited to submit a statement or provide an oral response (via conference call) to the Revocation Panel. This will be considered during the panel's deliberation process.

***How will I find out about the final decision?***

The requestor will be contacted by the Executive Office as soon as the Revocation Panel issues its decision. The Fellow will also be informed of the decision.

If a decision is made to revoke a Fellow's status, that information will be included on the [Fellows database](#) on the AAAS website, next to the individual's name.