

Advisor Bulletin: First Quarter 2021

Dear Advisors, Chapter Presidents, and Chapter Executive Staff:

Why am I getting this Bulletin, anyway?

If you are a Chapter President, Chapter Executive Director or Candidate Advisor, you are getting this bulletin to keep you updated on recent items in the Admissions and Continuing Education area. If you do not hold these positions or no longer want to serve as a Candidate Advisor, please let me know.

Candidate Contact Log

Thank you all for catching up on your contact notes; it has been very helpful. Your notes are the first thing we look at, to help us determine if someone is struggling, no longer pursuing, having personal difficulties, or whatever the case might be. However, if you want to contact someone in Admissions directly or immediately, please use e-mail; your contact notes are only consulted if we are investigating an issue with a specific Candidate.

If you want a particular Candidate to select a new advisor, just let me know. I do not want you to feel as if you are spinning your wheels or wasting your time; the Candidate may communicate more effectively with another Advisor or can be assigned to staff. If you find that you are just too overloaded with work right now and need to leave the Candidate Advisor Program, either temporarily or permanently, please e-mail me at advisors@appraisalinstitute.org.

Don't forget that you can access [Advisor Resources](#) online, including a handy video on accessing the advisor portal, recent bulletin issues, and the advisor handbook.

2020 Timelines and Annual Minimum Progress (AMP)

Recently, the Chair of the Admissions Committee approved staff to provide extensions for Candidates with December 2020 – June 2021 timelines to designation and 2020 annual minimum progress requirements. How will this affect Candidate Advisors? For individuals we provided automatic extensions to we do not have any specific plans on if they wish to continue in the program, however, we wanted to make sure Candidates had enough time to make these decisions. Please try to reach out to your Candidates and ask them to e-mail [Admissions](#) if they are no longer pursuing a designation.

I did copy advisors on the extensions I did for November 2020 through February 2021 timelines, but we were unable to copy each individual Advisor when we did mass extensions per the Chair of the Admissions Committee. All Candidate Advisors can always see Candidates' timelines (and remaining requirements) via the Advisor Portal.

Exam Windows

If Candidates have a question about an education exam window, they should contact the [Education](#) department before their exam window expires. Exam windows were extended, but I understand that some Candidates let the windows expire without notifying Education that they had not been able to find a seat. Because the distancing requirements at Pearson VUE translate to a very limited seating capacity, the Comp Exam windows will again be 2 months rather than one month for the next two comp exam windows. Exam results are available about two weeks after the **end of the exam window**.

- **April 1, 2021 – May 31, 2021 (exam results released in June)**
- **August 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021 (exam results released in October)**
- **November 1, 2021 (exam results released in December)**

What can my Candidate do to make progress, if courses are not available (or if none are needed)?

New Candidates may upload their most recent USPAP certificate; they can take their first-year requirement, AI Business Practices and Ethics; general Candidates can also take the [Advanced Education Diagnostic Test](#), which is required before registration for advanced courses.

General Candidates who plan to write a traditional demo report or hope to register for Capstone must first complete the [General Demonstration Report Writing Seminar](#).

Candidates can begin compiling their experience on the AI log at any time, but we do not recommend that they apply for experience until they have completed at least most of their coursework. If they are concerned about whether their work will meet AI criteria, they can apply for [Advisory Guidance](#), which is a free guidance program in which they will receive feedback from a trained experience screening counselor. This will help them better prepare for their Experience Requirement submission.

Education courses are offered via synchronous (live online) delivery twice a year (sometimes more). It is not guaranteed that any individual chapter will offer a course in a specific year if there is not sufficient demand. Candidates should contact their local chapter if they are looking to take their education locally and they do not see the education listed for registration. Otherwise, the synchronous courses are always another option. Challenging designation exams (for some designation paths) could be another option as well.

There is no “inactive status” for Candidates; if they are not actively pursuing a designation at this time, they should speak with someone in Admissions about their options (such as changing status to Practicing Affiliate).

Dual-Path Candidates

We have not discussed this in a while, so I wanted to bring up the topic again. Candidates who are pursuing multiple paths – most commonly MAI & SRA, MAI & AI-GRS, or SRA & AI-RRS – can save a great deal of time and money if they plan to get the primary designation first.

Having attained the MAI designation first, the only remaining requirement to obtain the SRA designation, would be experience.

See alternate paths [HERE](#) for attaining review designations once one has the MAI or SRA; basically, it is one course plus an abbreviated experience submission. Alternately, dual Candidates pursuing MAI/AI-GRS or SRA/AI-RRS can make both their experience submissions together and have just one screening for both; they should contact the [Experience](#) area for instructions on how to do so.

Obviously, some Candidates have just chosen to **NOT** follow that path, for various reasons, usually because they want to take courses as they are offered in their area. If that's their informed decision, that's fine; we just want them to know the options.

Financial aid

The deadline for January scholarships has passed, but the next deadline is April 1. Scholarship information can be found on the [AIERF website](#), along with information on emergency financial assistance.

As always, thank you for your service to the AI!

Best Regards,
Emma Abraham
advisors@appraisalinstitute.org
