

Guidelines to
Bridging Policy
of CJAO Member Organization to
NAJA Certified Member (CM) Title

History

The Council of Jewelry Appraisal Organization (CJAO) was founded on February 28, 1997 by:

Cos Altobelli, GG, American Gem Society (AGS)
James V. Jolliff, GG, National Association of Jewelry Appraisers (NAJA)
Paul Thompson, GG, American Society of Appraisers (ASA)
Gail Brett Levine, GG, International Society of Appraisers (ISA)

On April 1, 1997 (revised September 15, 1997) a Charter of agreed upon mutual appraisal standards for the member organizations of CJAO were developed by AGS, ISA and NAJA and accepted by these organizations. Even though, ASA did not continue to belong and/or support CJAO, we are including ASA's MGA members.

Purpose

The bridging policy applies to the highest level of educated and tested members of CJAO when such members wish to join NAJA. Members of AGS, ISA and ASA are given credit for their rigorous appraisal training for the purpose of achieving NAJA member credentials.

Many appraisal professionals have achieved high levels of education from their respective association and would like to have recognition from another association and such members should be welcomed by any of the other associations. NAJA is proud to have members who have taken their education seriously and attained the highest designations.

Requirements

Those members in good standing in the appraisal organizations of the Council of Jewelry Appraisal Organization (CJAO) being:

American Gem Society
International Society of Appraisers
National Association of Jewelry Appraisers
and, as an act of good faith, the American Society of Appraisers

who have attained:

1. CGA - Certified Gemologist Appraiser in the American Gem Society
2. ICGA - Independent Certified Gemologist Appraiser in the American Gem Society
3. ISA-CAPP - Certified Appraiser of Personal Property (in gems and jewelry) in the International Society of Appraisers
4. MGA® - Master Gemologist Appraiser in the American Society of Appraisers

may apply to the National Association of Jewelry Appraisers (NAJA) to waive some of the educational and experience requirements of the Certified Member (CM) title. Upon verification and completion of the following criteria, the applicant will have full member status within NAJA with the designation CM. Current NAJA members holding the CGA, ICGA, ISA- CAPP and MGA designation are also eligible.

1: This “Bridging Policy” applies ONLY to current CGA, ICGA, ISA CAPP and MGA’s in Gemstones and Jewelry. ISA’s S-CAPP designation in Antiques and Period Jewelry without gemological credentials is not valid for this policy.

2: Applicants must be in good standing with AGS, ISA and ASA and free of any unresolved Code of Ethics violations or charges.

3: A “Bridging Fee” of \$50.00, in addition to the current membership fee, will be paid at the time of application to new members. (Current NAJA members will pay only this fee and no additional membership fee.)

4: Applicants who are not current members of NAJA will join at the “Member” level and must fulfill all eligibility requirements before the “bridging” process begins.

5: The applicant will provide legible copies of gemological credentials, gem laboratory credentials (NAJA, AGA or AGS, ISA and MGA®) and other certification diploma(s).

6: Once eligibility has been confirmed, the applicant will be requested to submit appraisal reports (on items selected or suggested by NAJA). The function of the reports will be to estimate Replacement Cost (Comparable) for the purpose of obtaining insurance coverage and a market value appraisal of the same item assigned for the purpose of quick and orderly liquidation. (Such reports are most typically done in a summary format. However, in order to provide NAJA with broad understanding of the applicant’s grasp on the theoretical concepts of valuation, the self-contained format will be required. All methodology, testing, comparables, market research, consultants used, etc. will be reported.)

The appraisal reports can be submitted in electronic, preferably PDF format, for easy distribution among the reviewers. (Microsoft Word files can easily spread viruses and many on-line services and firewall programs now block such attachments. Guidelines for PDF creation can be provided to the applicant. A PDF report can be secured so that

alterations cannot be made to the reports once it has been produced by the appraiser.) Submitting appraisal reports in hard copy are also an option.

The appraisal reports MUST contain digitized images of all report addenda, including item's photograph(s), third party lab report results, and any other material that would normally be included with a printed and bound report to be delivered to a client. (It is not necessary to digitize the report binding/covers.)

The appraisal reports must NOT contain any real client names or addresses. The bridging candidate may use a fictitious name as the appraiser, if they wish.

The appraisal item, whether selected by the applicant or NAJA, must be "real." Research and comparables must also be "real" and not "made up" for this application. The item and research may be subject to verification by the NAJA reviewers.

The reports must conform to the minimum standards set forth by the NAJA. Those standards will be provided to the applicant when the request for the sample appraisal reports is made. Applicants will be held to the "higher" standard if and when a perceived conflict exists between the standards of AGS, NAJA, ISA and ASA. Reports failing to address (either as applicable or not-applicable) all NAJA standards will be failed.

Reports will be judged as to a high standard of professionalism regarding grammar, spelling, layout and presentation.

7: Applicants will have one year from time of application to fulfill all requirements. With the exception of very severe circumstances, e.g., serious illness, death of a spouse or close family member, extensions will not be granted. An additional bridging fee will be required to continue the process.

8: Until notification of successful completion by NAJA headquarters, applicants must strictly obey the Code of Ethics and guidelines of an NAJA Member. Applicants may NOT advertise or in any way indicate to current or prospective clients that their membership level within NAJA change before they receive their new level of certification.