How is the 2021 nomination process different?
- The major prompts on the nomination form must be answered.
- The nomination form and thus the identity of the nominator is sent to the jury.
- There is no need to list concise details of the nominee’s professional history.
- The reference is confidential, it must not be reviewed by the nominee or the nominator, and is sent directly to IFT.
- A one-page or less Nominee Career History limited to job titles, employer, location and dates of employment is required to be uploaded with the nomination.
- Any IFT member, including students, may nominate.

Will nominations from previous years be automatically reconsidered?
No, you must re-nominate for reconsideration.

Can different paper sizes and different fonts make my text fit?
No, four letter size pages with one inch margins, single spaced in 11 or 12 point font is the maximum nomination. Two letter size pages with one inch margins, single spaced in 11 or 12 point font is the maximum letter of reference.

Do citations, resumes, pictures, tables or graphs count in the 4-page nomination?
Yes, only four pages total in PDF format reaches the jury. Please do not send a resume.

Can anyone nominate a potential fellow?
Any IFT member, including students, in good standing can nominate.

How many members are selected each year?
In a given year, no more than 0.1 percent of total non-student members, which include premiere, networking, and engagement, joint international and emeritus is eligible, and even fewer than that will earn this.

How do I know my or the nominee’s member status?
Contact IFT Central with any questions +1.312.782.8424. Visit https://www.ift.org/membership/membership-types for an overview of IFT membership.

What does 15 years active practice of the profession mean?
This is gainful employment for 15 years that need not be consecutive. There should be 10 years of distinctive performance. The nominee must be a member of IFT for 15 years. IFT Fellow is NOT automatic after a certain number of years nor after professional member status. Fellow is an honorary distinction based on extraordinary qualifications.

Is the Certified Food Scientist (CFS) credential required of nominees?
No, CFS is not a Fellow criterion.

Can I resubmit a nomination from a prior year?
You may resubmit a nominee from a previous year but pay close attention to the revised nomination criteria to ensure you provide the nomination content as outlined.
Are the honors, awards, recognition, and leadership nomination form criteria new (10%)?
No, these are two prior criteria at 5% each now combined into a single 10% criterion.
- Honors, awards and other evidence of recognition within the profession (5%) and
- Other evidence of leadership and achievements within the profession (5%)

Can I get an extension?
No, February 1, 2021 at 11:59pm Central Standard Time is the deadline for all documents (nomination form, nomination statement, one-page career history, reference letter) with no exceptions. The reference letter is uploaded directly by the writer and is not sent to the nominator.

Can I use a prior year nomination form/cover page?
No, only the 2021 Fellow nomination form through the Awards portal will be accepted.

Can I recycle an IFT Achievement Award nomination for IFT Fellow?
Yes, but the criteria for an Achievement Award may be different then the established criteria for selection of an IFT Fellow – so ensure that all criteria for being selected as an IFT Fellow have been met. Although three years must elapse between IFT Achievement Award nominations, there is no time restriction on an IFT Fellow nomination.

Can more than one reference be submitted?
No, only one reference will be reviewed by the jury.

Can an IFT Fellow write a reference for multiple nominations?
Yes, the nominator can also make multiple nominations.

Must the reference writer be an IFT Fellow?
Yes, please find a current roster of IFT Fellows here https://www.ift.org/community/awards-and-recognition/ift-fellows

Jury Process
Who is on the jury?
The IFT Fellows jury has six academic and six non-academic IFT Fellows. The names are confidential except for the jury chair. If by chance you pick a reference writer who is a current juror, the juror will decline your request.

How do I get on an IFT Fellow jury?
Current IFT fellows are eligible to serve on the jury and are appointed annually following the June/July Call for Volunteers posted to IFT Volunteer Central. Contact Shannon Conkright for further detail at sconkright@ift.org.