

Referee Certification

Referee Certification Requirements

Prerequisites (need to be completed before you can begin on deck training):

- Age - 19 years or older
- USA Swimming member in good standing (current registration, APT and BC)
- Previous required certifications: Stroke & Turn Judge, Starter, Administrative Official

Certification Requirements (preferably completed within one year of clinic attendance):

- Complete a Referee Clinic
- Pass the [USA Swimming Referee Certification Test](#)
- Minimum four apprentice sessions at sanctioned or approved meets (not including observed meets)
 - At least two different meets
 - At least two different mentors
 - Complete the [Referee Certification Template](#) after each session
 - Evaluation Session may be done any time after the 3rd apprentice session: **Note that evaluation session should include radios.**
 - Note that if evaluation is not successful, the evaluator must submit to the apprentice a written action plan within two weeks and copy the Officials Chair.
- [Referee Certification Template](#) may be submitted any time after the 3rd apprentice session. If approved, you will become certified immediately upon successful completion of any outstanding requirements and evaluation.
- Complete certification within one year of clinic.
- Certification: good until the Dec 31, 2026.

Referee Recertification Requirements

- Continue to be a USA Swimming Official in good standing (current registration, APT and BC)

- Session requirement: 16 sessions within 3 years, at least 8 in any referee position
- Attend a AMS Clinic (recommend Referee Clinic) at least once every 3 years
- Pass the [USA Swimming Referee Recertification Test](#)
- Submit the online [Officials Recertification Request Form](#)
- Recertification extends your certification for three years and recertifies S&T Judge, Chief Judge, Starter and Administrative Official certifications until Dec 31, 2026.

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