

What are the steps to becoming a USA Hockey Coach?

USA Hockey and the Coaching Education Program require both certification and registration to be eligible to coach. Registration is done online on a yearly basis at www.usahockey.com. Certification is also required. A few basic steps are as follows:

- Find, register and attend the required certification clinic. You can only attend one clinic per season. A current list of clinics can be found by clicking here (The coaching clinic season for Levels 1-3 officially runs from September 1 to December 31): <http://www.usahockey.com/viewallclinics.aspx>
- Complete the online age-specific module(s) for the age level of play you are coaching. (The online modules are only available from September 1 to December 31.)
- Must attend the required clinic and complete the necessary online age-specific module(s) by December 31 of the current playing season to continue coaching on January 1.
- Please also read the FAQ section under Coaches where most of your questions will be answered as well: http://www.usahockey.com//Template_Usahockey.aspx?NAV=CO_01&ID=19440

WHAT LEVEL CERTIFICATION DO I NEED TO COACH THIS YEAR? USA Hockey no longer requires a specific certification level based on the age level of play coaching. A coach must progress through the education system every year and have completed the online age-specific module for each age level coaching.

HOW MANY CLINICS CAN I REGISTER FOR IN A CLINIC SEASON? USA Hockey allows coaches to attend only ONE clinic per season. A coach must also complete the online age-specific module for each age level he/she is coaching that year. A coach can complete more than one online age-specific module in a season if he/she is coaching multiple age levels.

LOST OR DAMAGED COACHING EDUCATION PROGRAM (CEP) CARD Beginning with the 2011-12 season, USA Hockey will no longer issue blue CEP cards to coaches. The online certification list will serve as proof of a coach's certification. You can print an electronic version of your card from the online certification list:
<http://www.usahockey.com/CoachingClinicCertSearch.aspx>

MY LEVEL 1 IS EXPIRED or EXPIRING THIS DECEMBER, WHAT DO I NEED TO DO? You must attend a Level 2 clinic AND complete the online age-specific module for each age level you are coaching if not previously taken prior to December 31 of the current playing season. Mite (8 and Under) coaches may remain at Level 1 (even if it is expired) until they move to another age level of play.

MY LEVEL 2 IS EXPIRED or EXPIRING THIS DECEMBER, WHAT DO I NEED TO DO? You must attend a Level 3 clinic AND complete the online age-specific module for each age level you

are coaching if not previously taken prior to December 31 of the current playing season. Mite (8 and Under) coaches may remain at Level 1 (even if it is expired) until they move to another age level of play.

MY LEVEL 3 IS EXPIRED or EXPIRING THIS DECEMBER, WHAT DO I NEED TO DO? You must complete the online Level 3 re-certification or attend a Level 4 clinic AND complete the online age-specific module for each age level you are coaching if not previously taken prior to December 31 of the current playing season. You can no longer attend another Level 3 clinic to re-certify your Level 3 certification. Coaches of National Tournament Bound Tier I 14U, 16U, and 18/19U and Tier II 16U, and 18/19U teams must complete Level 4 in their fourth season of coaching. Mite (8 and Under) coaches may remain at Level 1 (even if it is expired) until they move to another age level of play.

HOW MANY TIMES CAN I DO THE ONLINE LEVEL 3 RE-CERTIFICATION? You may complete Track 1 and Track 2 of the online re-certification program. The program should automatically recognize if you have previously registered for one of the tracks and will direct you to Track 2. If you have already taken the rec-ertification twice, you must attend a Level 4 clinic and complete the online age-specific module for each age level you are coaching if not previously taken.

I WAS TOLD MY LEVEL 4 AND 5 CERTIFICATION WAS VALID FOR LIFE, WHY DO I HAVE TO COMPLETE THE ONLINE AGE-SPECIFIC MODULE(S)? Your certification is still valid for life and requires no re-certification. With the advent of the American Development Model all coaches are required to complete the online age-specific module for the age level of play they are coaching. This online component provides information specific to the age of your players in accordance with the ADM and Long Term Athlete Development program.