
WHY DOES MY 2010/11 LEVEL 1 OR 2 CERTIFICATION EXPIRE DEC. 31, 2011?

All coaches must adhere to the new Coaching Education Program guidelines that go into effect on September 1, 2011. The new standards require you to attend one clinic every year for Levels 1-3. In an effort to begin educating coaches, we made the 2010-11 stickers reflect the need to attend a clinic next season in accordance with the new standards that will go into effect on September 1, 2011.

WHY DOES MY 2010/11 LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATION EXPIRE DEC. 31, 2012?

All coaches must adhere to the new Coaching Education Program guidelines that go into effect on September 1, 2011. The new standards have the Level 3 certification valid for two seasons. In an effort to begin educating coaches, we made the 2010-11 stickers reflect the need to attend a clinic during the 2012-13 season in accordance with the new standards that will go into effect on September 1, 2011.

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.

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.

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

MY LEVEL 3 IS EXPIRED or EXPIRING THIS DECEMBER, WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

You must complete the online Level 3 recertification 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. *Coaches of Tier I and Tier II (National Tournament Bound) 14U, 16U, and 18/19U teams must complete Level 4.*

HOW MANY TIMES CAN I DO THE ONLINE LEVEL 3 RECERTIFICATION?

You may complete Track 1 and Track 2 of the online recertification 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 recertification 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 recertification. 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.

I DID NOT COMPLETE THE ONLINE AGE-SPECIFIC MODULE PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31, WHAT HAPPENS NOW? I WAS NOT ABLE TO ATTEND A CLINIC PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31, WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

All coaches must be certified and have completed the online age-specific modules prior to December 31st in order to continue coaching the remainder of the season. The Coaching Education Program offers a Request for Temporary Card for the certification clinic if a coach is unable to attend a clinic. This must be requested in accordance with district policies. Please check your district website for information specific to your area. If your district does not grant temporary cards after December 31 then you will be ineligible to coach the remainder of the current season.

LOST OR DAMAGED COACHING EDUCATION PROGRAM (CEP) CARD.

Beginning with the 2011-12 season, we will no longer issue blue CEP cards to coaches. The online certification list will serve as proof of a coach's certification. Beginning September 1, 2011, a coach will also have the ability to print a virtual CEP card from the information provided there. If you would still like to receive a replacement card, please follow the instructions below.

Please print out and fill out the form, giving as much information as possible. This process can take a minimum of 2-4 weeks. You can print off your certification information from our online certification as proof until your new card arrives. Please click on the following link to obtain the Replacement Card Form:

<http://www.usahockey.com/LinkedDocs/d/2/3/d234ca88-adfd-428c-8385-99cebb112bc9.pdf>

DO ASSISTANT COACHES HAVE TO BE CERTIFIED AT THE SAME LEVEL AS THE HEAD COACH?

Yes. USA Hockey does not distinguish between an assistant and head coach in regards to required certification level. All coaches participating in **ALL** team functions (i.e. games, scrimmages, practices, try-outs, tournaments, off-ice training, etc.) must meet the same coaching certification level, based upon the level of play coaching.

WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO BECOME 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:

- Register as a member of USA Hockey
- 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