

Coach Certification

Coach Certification is required to serve as a coach at any USA Climbing (USAC) Sanctioned Event. A coach's membership must be of the appropriate level and in an "Current" state prior to entry into isolation (Level 2) or being allowed on the competition floor (Level 1 or 2). The ability to file an appeal on behalf of a competitor is limited to current USAC Level 1 or Level 2 Certified Coach Members. USA Climbing Teams will be required to attest that all coaches on their staff have either a Level 1 or 2 Certified Coach Membership. Each Team Membership must have at least one Current Level 2 Certified Coach Member.

A coach must meet minimum requirements to be considered as a USA Climbing Certified Coach Member. Certification is subject to review and revocation is subject to USA Climbing's Bylaws.

A USA Climbing Level 1 Certified Coach must:

- Obtain a USA Climbing Coach Membership
- Be at least 16 years old
- Have minimum of three (3) member competitors who they actively coach; or, if fewer than three (3) member competitors, submit a letter documenting his/her coaching experience accompanied by references
- Authorize USA Climbing to conduct a criminal background check, responded promptly to requests from vendor for additional information, and successfully completed that background screening under the USA Climbing SafeSport Screening and Background Check Policy
- Successfully complete the SafeSport online training program (Certificates are valid for one USA Climbing season).
- Provide documentation verifying your role as a coach by providing one of the following:
 - Option 1: a letter from your employer stating that you are employed as a coach. This letter needs to be dated for the current season, include contact information for your employer, and should be on gym/team letterhead.
 - Option 2: a personal letter and curriculum vitae documenting your coaching experience, accompanied by at least two references.

A USA Climbing Level 2 Certified Coach must:

- Fulfill all requirements of a Level 1 Certified Coach as listed above
- Provide documentation proving current First Aid and CPR certification through the season in which their certification is valid.
- Must be at least 18 years old

Please note that documentation verification takes 48-72 hours after submission. All documents must be submitted prior to 12pm MT on Fridays to be verified prior to weekend competitions.