Frequently Asked Questions

Coaching Certification
OCIAA
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Q. Do guidance counselors need a coaching license?

A. No. As of July 1, 2010, PPS staff will no longer be required to apply for a Temporary or Professional Coaching License. They must still complete all the course requirements (FA/CPR and Coaching Courses) within the time line indicated in regulation: Philosophy, Principles and Organization of Athletics in Education within 2 years of their initial appointment and the remaining coaching courses within 5 years of their initial appointment.

Q. Do volunteers need a coaching license?

A. Yes. The regulations require all coaches, whether paid or unpaid, must follow the regulations regarding coaching licenses, coaching courses, and First Aid and CPR certification.

Q. Can I apply for more than one sport on my license?

A. No. A separate license must be held for each sport coached.

Q. I just retired from teaching and now I’m told I need to be fingerprinted. Isn’t there a grandfather clause for this? And, do I now have to do the SAVE and Child Abuse courses, too?

A. No. Once you leave your teaching position, you are no longer covered by the grandfather clause for fingerprinting. You must be fingerprinted, and have verification of completing the SAVE and Child Abuse courses.
Q. Is the SED CPR for Coaches course I took last year now good for two years?

A. No. Participants must take the July 2009, revised SED CPR for Coaches course to receive the two-year certificate.

Q. I have an AHA-approved CPR card, but it indicates it is valid for only one year. With the change to two years, is it now good for two years?

A. No. The validity period on the card is only good for what it states. If the card issued says it is good for one year, it is only good for one year. If it states two years, it is good for two years.

Q. I took a First Aid and CPR course online from the American Red Cross. Is it approved?

A. No. SED does not approve ANY ONLINE First Aid or CPR courses.

Q. If the SED valid date on my coaching licenses says it is valid on February 1, 2010, do I have to wait until then to coach?

A. No. Once the SED TEACH system issues the license and its’ web site indicates it has been “issued,” it is valid and you may begin coaching.

Q. Can the Board of Education appoint me as a coach pending and SED-issued license?
A. Yes. However, you cannot begin coaching until the SED TEACH system web site lists the license as “issued.”

Q. Will SED be auditing coaching licenses?

A. Yes. We have been advised that when SED auditors visit a school, they check on teaching certificates of staff and will be adding coaching certificates to their reviews.

Q. I did not know I had to complete the coaching courses. What are my options?

A. That depends on how long you have been coaching without completing the courses. The regulations require that the Philosophy, Principles and Organization of Athletics in Education course must be completed within two years of your INITIAL appointment as a coach. An extension may be requested for extenuating circumstances by submitting an Extension Request to the Associate in Physical Education at SED. The remaining two courses must be completed within five years of your INITIAL appointment as a coach. An extension may be requested for extenuating circumstances in the same manner as previously stated. Forms can be found in the appendix of the Guidelines for the Coaching Regulations document at: http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pe/toolkitdocs/coachingguidelines

Q. Can my coaching experience in basketball (or any other sport) count for the Theory & Techniques of Coaching Basketball (or any other sport)?

A. No. While such an experience is valuable, it does not constitute an adequate preparation for coaching an interschool team as an integral part of the school physical education program. Courses in techniques of coaching specific sports are
necessary for persons not trained and certified as physical education teachers.

**Q.** I took several coaching and coaching-relevant courses in college. Can I get credit for those instead of taking the required courses?

**A.** It is possible. Submit a Coaching Equivalent form with a transcript and course description to the Associate in Physical Education at SED for a review. Forms can be found in the appendix of the Guidelines for the Coaching Regulations document at:
http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pe/toolkitdocs/coachingguidelines

*Answers provided by Trish Kocialski, SED*