





ISCA CERTIFICATION

The **ISCA Certification System** (“Shields & Stars”) aims to standardize and celebrate the achievements of modern swim coaches, rewarding them not only for their team’s performances, but for a demonstrated commitment to coaching education and their efforts to becoming, day-by-day, year-by-year, a better coach.

In order to receive certification, coaches must maintain their ISCA membership annually and agree to the [ISCA Code of Practice](#). Please note that only ISCA members can be certified coaches. Member coaches can also apply for certification updates by filling out the appropriate [online forms](#) and submitting them to certification@swimisca.org. Coaches will receive an ISCA **e-certificate** and updated **e-membership** card with successful certification review (hard copy membership cards and certificates are available for a small processing fee¹).

ISCA CERTIFICATION SHIELDS

(Showcasing Experience & Commitment to Learning)

<u>“Level”</u>	<u>Education Requirement</u>	<u>Member Affiliate Years</u>	<u>Shield Level</u>
ISCA MEMBER	--	--	--
BRONZE Coach Shield	ISCA Core Education (Automatic 45 Credits)	--	 <i>(Plus Any Affiliated Stars)</i>
SILVER Coach Shield	75 ICE Units (Including ISCA Core Education)	1.5 Years Of Standing ISCA Membership	 <i>(Plus Any Affiliated Stars)</i>
GOLD Coach Shield	150 ICE Units (Including ISCA Core Education)	3.5 Years Of Standing ISCA Membership	 <i>(Plus Any Affiliated Stars)</i>
PLATINUM Coach Shield	230 ICE Units (Including ISCA Core Education)	6 Years Of Standing ISCA Membership	 <i>(Coaches are given a commemorative Polo Shirt & Lapel Pin At This Level)</i>

¹ Please contact ISCA Certification individually at certification@swimmingcoach.org to arrange this.








ISCA CERTIFICATION

ISCA “STARS”

(Showcasing Performance)

Coaches can also be recognized with five different add-on “stars” to their certification shield based on their coaching accomplishments and swimmers’ performance. Examples are:

Star Name	Description	Symbol
“Drowning Prevention” (DP) Star	Certified Lifeguard or Water Safety Instructor ²	
“Developmental” (D) Star	Primary Developmental Head Coach or Swim School Supervisor ³	
“Age Group” (AG) Star	Primary Coach with 5000 FINA points in a season using 15 individual swimmers (aged 13 & Under) in one event each. ⁴	
“Senior” (S) Star	Primary Coach with 14,000 FINA points in a season using 10 individual swimmers in up to two events each	
“Laureate” (L) Star	Primary coach of an Olympic swimmer with a 900+ point swim, or 16,200 FINA points in one season using 10 individual swimmers in up to two events each.	

Unlike ISCA Shields, stars **do not** have to be obtained consecutively or with educational prerequisites. In theory, a career coach will obtain the stars in order as they move up through the professional ranks, however, stars can be applied for at any time.

² As demonstrated by fulfilling all components of the ISCA DP Verification Form. Examples fitting this criteria may be: Red Cross Certified Lifeguard, USA Swimming In-Water Safety Training, Ellis & Associates Lifeguard, etc. All qualifying accreditation must include a validated in-water training component. Please note that CPR/First Aid Certification alone will not meet the requirement.

³ As demonstrated by fulfilling all components of the ISCA D Verification Form.

⁴ As demonstrated by fulfilling all components of the ISCA AG-S-L Verification Form. FINA points can be calculated by coaches using the [FINA Points Calculator](#) (also located in the mobile FINA app).