

## ISCA CERTIFICATION

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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](mailto: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 fee<sup>1</sup>).

### ISCA CERTIFICATION SHIELDS

*(Showcasing Experience & Commitment to Learning)*

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

<sup>1</sup> Please contact ISCA Certification individually at [certification@swimmingcoach.org](mailto:certification@swimmingcoach.org) to arrange this.



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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> As demonstrated by fulfilling all components of the ISCA D Verification Form.

<sup>4</sup> 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).