



**American
Red Cross**

Safety Training for Swim Coaches

Answering Coaches' Questions

September 5, 2013

Safety Training for Swim Coaches

- The new program, released on August 20, 2013, was developed in **partnership with USA Swimming** to teach coaches how to help:
 - Maintain a comfortable and safe environment for swimmers.
 - Prevent accidents and emergencies.
 - Respond to ill or injured swimmers in water or on land.
- Click [here](#) for a preview of the new program.

Do I have to take the new course now?

- Check your 2013 USA Swimming membership card, Deck Pass account or YMCA Coaches Credential to **check the expiration date of your current certification.**
- If you meet the Coaches Safety Education requirement:
 - With a Safety Training for Swim Coaches certificate:
 - You must take the new Safety Training for Swim Coaches full or review course prior to expiration of your current Safety Training for Swim Coaches certificate.
 - With a Lifeguarding certificate and the written exam only:
 - You must take a Lifeguarding full or review course and the Safety Training for Swim Coaches Online Content Only prior to the expiration of your current Lifeguarding certificate.

I have a current Lifeguarding certificate, what do I need to do?

- Register for and complete the **Safety Training for Swim Coaches Online Content Only** course, which is available on redcross.org/takeaclass.
 - Step 2, select Water Safety Education
 - Step 3, select Safety Training for Swim Coaches Online Content Only
- Present the following course completion certificates to your LSC Registrar or YMCA group representative (click [here](#) for a listing of eligible courses):
 - Lifeguarding or YMCA Aquatic Safety Assistant
 - Safety Training for Swim Coaches Online Content Only
 - CPR
 - First aid

All certificates must be valid to meet the Coaches Safety Education requirement. The expiration date will be whichever certificate expires first.

I have a Safety Training for Swim Coaches certificate and need to renew, what do I need to do?

- If you have a current Safety Training for Swim Coaches certificate, you are eligible for the review course.
- Register for a **Safety Training for Swim Coaches** course that is scheduled through a Red Cross participating aquatics facility.
 - After you register, your instructor will send you a registration link to **complete the online course content**.
 - You must also **complete an abbreviated in-water skills session** scheduled as part of the course.

Upon successful completion of a Safety Training for Swim Coaches review course, you will receive a Safety Training for Swim Coaches/First Aid certificate.

I am a new coach and have neither a STSC or Lifeguarding certificate, what do I need to do?

- Register for a **Safety Training for Swim Coaches** course that is scheduled through a Red Cross participating aquatics facility prior to the expiration date.
 - After you register, your instructor will send you a registration link to **complete the online course content**.
 - You must also **complete the in-water skills session** scheduled as part of the course.

Upon successful completion of a Safety Training for Swim Coaches full course, you will receive a Safety Training for Swim Coaches/First Aid certificate.

Where is the written exam that used to be on the USA Swimming website?

- The written exam option is no longer available.
- Coaches must now complete the online content of the Safety Training for Swim Coaches Blended Learning course, which includes one of the following options:
 1. Safety Training for Swim Coaches: an online component and an in-water skills session.
 2. Safety Training for Swim Coaches Online Content Only: the online component combined with an eligible, valid Lifeguarding certificate.

Can I take the Online Content Only course now and then find an in-water skills session later?

- No. If you do not have an eligible Lifeguarding certificate, you must enroll in a Safety Training for Swim Coaches full or review course. (Click [here](#) for a listing of eligible courses.)
- After enrollment, you will be provided with access to the online course.

How do I find a new Safety Training for Swim Coaches course?

- To find a course, check with a Red Cross participating aquatics facility for a **schedule of courses**.
- Your instructor will provide you a **registration link** to the online content and a schedule for the in-water skills session.
- If you cannot find a course, contact a **Safety Training for Swim Coaches, Lifeguarding or Water Safety instructor** at a Red Cross participating facility to get a course scheduled.

How long and how much is the new course?

Course	Length	Fee
Safety Training for Swim Coaches (full course)	6 hrs (3 hrs online; 3 hrs in-water skills session)	\$19 Red Cross fee + facility fee
Safety Training for Swim Coaches Review	3 hrs, 50 min (3 hrs online; 50 min in-water skills session)	\$19 Red Cross fee + facility fee
Safety Training for Swim Coaches Online Content Only	3 hrs	\$19

Can I Become a Safety Training for Swim Coaches instructor?

- Absolutely! To be eligible to be an instructor, you must:
 - Be at least 16 years of age on or before the last day of the instructor course.
 - Complete the online session, which includes:
 - Orientation to the Safety Training for Swim Coaches Instructor Course.
 - Online Orientation to the American Red Cross.
 - Complete the precourse session, including the rescue skills evaluation.
- To be certified, you must successfully:
 - Complete the online and precourse sessions.
 - Attend and actively participate in all course sessions.
 - Complete class activities, including the required practice-teaching assignment.
 - Complete the instructor course final written exam with a minimum score of 80 percent.

How Can I Get More Information?

- For information about basic-level courses, go to: [redcross.org/take-a-class/safety-training-for-swim-coaches](https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/safety-training-for-swim-coaches)
- For instructor-level information, go to the Swim Coaches page of Instructor's Corner at: <http://www.instructorscorner.org/n/aquatics/safety-training-swim-coaches/>
 - *Note: Access to Instructor's Corner is restricted to Red Cross certified instructors.*
- For additional resources for YMCA coaches, go to: ymcaswimminganddiving.org