

Re-certifying as: Starter (& AO)

Starter re-certification requires you to do the following to 'Catch the Wave':

1. **Maintain USA/CT requirements:**
 - **Registration** for USA/CT membership with application is done annually – do this between Sept -Dec each year –it is good for the following full year find it on the ctswim website officials page, Becoming a New Official (<https://www.ctswim.org/CTNet/CFPaintForm.aspx?f=93>)
 - **Athlete Protection Training (APT)** is done every two years (<https://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=2193&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en>)
 - **Background Check** done every two years in DECEMBER (*Note: if your background expires before December of the coming year the first years you may need to take this early to 'catch the wave'*) (<https://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=2019&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en>)

2. **Clinic** – Two (2) year cycle
Attend a **re-cert Starter clinic** or the Officials Annual Meeting every two years during the re-cert period Oct/Nov/Dec
(*Note: the first years you may need to take your clinic early to 'catch the wave' if your clinic expires before October of the coming year*)
(*Note: if the Annual Officials Meeting is before Oct it will still count*)
If also, an AO, the AO clinic must also be attended every two years

3. **Test** – Two (2) year cycle
Take the **re-cert Starter test** every two years during the re-cert period Oct/Nov/Dec, passing with 80%+
(*Note: the first years you may need to take your test early to 'catch the wave' if your test expires before October of the coming year*)
If also, an AO, the AO re-cert test must also be taken every two years

4. **Work** - eight (8) sessions annually;
1 S&T, 1 Championship (Age Groups, Seniors or Regionals) plus 6 additional sessions of any type of USAS sanctioned meet.
Note: Coaches that are officials do not have to work the one championship session since they must attend as a coach but they do need to complete the 8 sessions.
Starters that are also AOs must work 4 AO sessions plus, 1 championship session and 1 S&T session plus 2 more sessions of any type
Note: no OTS credit for Y or high school observations.

5. **Send** - 'Re-certify me as Starter' email to the Officials Chair (OC) at officials@ctswim.org upon completion of the above. If you do not contact the OC it will not be completed. Only do this when EVERYTHING appears correct and done in your OTS account. Be sure to give your name, certification, and team affiliation. (*NOTE: it takes approx. one [1] week for a change in status to be processed & recorded do NOT anticipate it sooner*)

6. **Print** - out your Starter Card from OTS