

# CIF/NFHS COACHING EDUCATION PROGRAM

## *FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS*

With the passing of the new Coaching Education and Steroid/Performance-Enhancing Supplements bylaws there have been many questions about what this means for schools and coaches in California. In May 2005, the State CIF Federated Council voted unanimously to join 33 other states in the mandated “certification” of coaches.

### What is the purpose of the CIF/ASEP Coaching Education Program?

*The purpose of the CIF Coaching Education Program is to enhance the experience of student-athletes by assuring that their coaches meet a minimum level of professional training. The program provides strong, pragmatic and comprehensive instruction for coaches of interscholastic athletics in California that is consistent with the highest national standards as set by the legislature, state Department of Education, California Interscholastic Federation and National Federation of State High School Associations.*

### Who is required to pass the Coaching Education class?

*The revised CIF Bylaw 22.B.(9) states: “Definition of a coach, paid or unpaid: Any individual that the school/district is required to approve under Title V, California Code of Regulations, Section 5593 and 5594 and/or under California Education Code 33190-33192, 45125.01 and 45125.1.” Simply stated, anyone who is required to be fingerprinted and/or is approved by their local school board/directors to have contact with students. This applies to all CIF member schools, public and private.*

### By what date must all coaches be certified?

*No later than December 31, 2008, all coaches shall be certified in the CIF/ASEP Coaching Education program or equivalent as stated in Bylaw 22.B.(9). This allows all CIF member schools a 41-month time frame to complete the process.*

### We cannot always fill our coaching positions prior to the season. How do we get coaches certified when someone is hired at the last moment?

*The CIF bylaw allows for this common situation. A school/district may hire a coach that is not certified, but only for one sports season. The coach must complete the certification before they can coach another season and/or a second sport. The proposed state law (SB 39) also will allow this one sports season exception. The CIF Coaching Education class*

*also will be available online for those who are not able to participate in a traditional classroom setting instruction. The cost for the online Coaching Education course is \$105.*

**In these tough financial times, how are we supposed to pay for this new mandate?**

*The Federated Council recognized that this could financially impact school's budgets. However, the overwhelming evidence is that the one-time expense is far outweighed by the return. Neighboring states Nevada and Oregon mandated coaching education several years ago and found that coaches paid the fee and the fear of coaches "quitting" did NOT materialize. In addition, the State CIF office negotiated a greatly reduced price for the class and materials (35% reduction). The new price for schools to order the coaching education materials packet from the CIF is now \$60 per unit (plus tax). This includes the Coaching Principles textbook, Coaches Study Guide, National Test and CIF State Rules Test and Study Guide, shipping and test grading by ASEP of both assessments. Those passing the class will be added to the "National Certificated Coaches" database.*

**If I completed and *passed* the former Coaching Education program, do I have to retake the class?**

*NO! If you completed the course and passed the test, you are certified for life and will be included on the "National Certified Coaches" database. If you have a question about whether or not you passed the test, go to [www.asep.com](http://www.asep.com) and search the National Coaches database. If you have questions regarding the database, call ASEP at 800-747-5698 and ask for Nicole Noble-Pruitt. However, when possible, we do recommend coaches retake the course or sit in on a class in order to get the updated information on steroids, coaching for character and dealing with diverse athletes.*

**If I was an INSTRUCTOR in the former Coaching Education program, do I have to get re-certified?**

*YES. Because of the amount of new material and curriculum, it has been determined that nationally, all instructors will need to be re-certified and go through a new "training of trainers" program.*

**How do I get re-certified as an instructor?**

*As of June 1, 2005, the State CIF had re-certified 134 active instructors for free using grant money from the NFHS/Gatorade and additional CIF funds. Over 150 current instructors were offered the opportunity to recertify at no cost. Most took advantage of the offer.*

I was an instructor but I never received an offer to re-certify at no cost?

*The original instructor training, as it still does today, requires that instructors must teach at least one class every two years and submit their class rosters to ASEP in order to keep their certification current. Many California instructors allowed this requirement to lapse and thus lost their instructor status. The no-cost offer was made only to those who had maintained their instructor status.*

I let my instructor status expire, what do I do now? My school/district does not have an instructor, what do we do?

*The most efficient and cost-effective method for a school/district to implement the CIF Coaching Education program is to have an employee as an instructor so that person can teach the class “in-house” and modify and adapt the program to meet their local school needs. The cost for the two-day new instructor training is \$395. Please visit the State CIF web site at [www.cifstate.org](http://www.cifstate.org) and click on the link “Upcoming Coaching Education Training of the Trainers” to find a list of dates and the registration form.*

Are there any other programs or methods that will satisfy this certification mandate?

*YES and NO. Presently there are no other coaching education programs that meet this “National Standard of Care.” California Education Code clearly lists the eight areas that any coaching education class must include. (SB 39 may increase these standards, the CIF Coaching Education Classes already meet and exceed the SB 39 proposed standard). Schools/districts can develop their own program as long as it meets all of the standards and is approved by a Coaching Education Committee (as mandated by AB 2741) that includes members from the California School Boards Association, Association of California School Administrators, State PTA and the California Department of Education, to name just a few. Schools and districts should be cautioned when attempting to develop their own program that they may lose the important judicial defense of meeting the “National Standard” that is provided by the CIF program and is mandated in 30+ other states.*

How do I find a Coaching Education class?

*Check with your local high school or district office to see if they have any classes set up in the area. You may also visit the State CIF web site at [www.cifstate.org](http://www.cifstate.org) and select the Educational Programs link to find a list of classes. You also may take the class online.*

How do I find a Coaching Education Instructor to teach my coaches?

*The State CIF has a growing certified faculty that is willing to teach classes throughout the state. Check out the CIF web site at [www.cifstate.org](http://www.cifstate.org) and look under “List of State Instructors” to find an instructor in your area or contact Todd Flourney at the CIF State office at (510) 521-4447 or [tflourney@cifstate.org](mailto:tflourney@cifstate.org)*

**Who do I contact to order the Coaching Education Materials for my Coaches?**

*Contact Todd Flourney, CIF Asst. Director at the CIF State office (510) 521-4447 or [tflourney@cifstate.org](mailto:tflourney@cifstate.org)*

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