



# Ohio High School Athletic Association

## Coach Certification

### *The Requirements, and "How To Become Certified"*

#### **Notes & Facts:**

All PAID and VOLUNTEER Coaches are required to obtain a Pupil Activity Coaching Permit through the Ohio Department of Education to work with, supervise, direct or coach student-athletes in Ohio.

Bylaw 6 of the OHSAA's Bylaws addresses "Coaching Requirements" for all member school coaches.

ALL coaches, whether Paid or Volunteer are bound by all regulations of the OHSAA and therefore must meet the requirements outlined in Bylaw 6. Bylaw 6-1-2 states: "All coaches, paid and volunteer, shall meet the criteria established by the State Board of Education".

The State Board of Education has adopted the following requirements for coaches to obtain a "Pupil Activity Coaching Permit" in Ohio:

1. Complete the National Federation of State High School Association's (NFHS) Fundamentals of Coaching class. The most efficient method of completing this is online at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com)
  - Make certain to take "Fundamentals of Coaching", NOT "Fundamentals of Coaching Soccer...or Basketball...etc."
2. Complete an approved CPR training course. You must have a current, valid certificate/card. Online versions of CPR are now accepted (this is NEW) to meet this requirement **if your school district accepts the online version**. In most cases, schools do not have a policy one way or the other so you may have to ask your Human Resources Office.
3. Complete **one** of the following first aid or sports injury prevention trainings or possess one of the Medical Licenses listed:
  - Ohio Department of Education Approved Pupil Activity Program. You can locate current approved programs via this website: <https://core.ode.state.oh.us/CORE3/ODE.CORE.PPA.Public.UI/>
  - Medical License: (M.D., D.O, D.C., R.N., EMT, A.T.C.)
  - Nationally approved programs: Approved Red Cross "Sport Safety Training," or American Sport Education Program, or National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS First Aid for Coaches). You can access the NFHS program though [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com)
  - College or university coursework completed within the past three years related to first aid training or athletic training.
4. Complete one of the two approved courses on concussion training through the Ohio Department of Health website:
  - The NFHS "Concussion in Sports – What You Need to Know" This is available through the NFHS website at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com)
  - National Centers for Disease Control & Prevention program "Heads Up – Concussion in Youth Sports Online Training Program"

*Both courses are free of charge, and may be completed online in about an hour. Completion of either of the Concussion Courses is "good" for a 3 year period.*

5. Complete a BCI and FBI background check and have it filed at the Ohio Department of Education.
  - MOST school districts offer this service.
6. APPLY and obtain the actual Pupil Activity Coaching Permit through the Ohio Department of Education. This is now submitted online (effective January 1, 2014) through the school district's "Safe Account". Information on applying is available directly at: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Teaching/Educator-Licensure/Apply-for-Certificate-License>

**Note:** Want to check the State ID # for a coach? Go to the site listed below, click- type the individual's name in the text box. When his/her name pops up, select the "Credentials" link on the left column. The link is:

<https://coreprodint.ode.state.oh.us/CORE2.3/ODE.CORE.EducatorProfile.UI/EducatorSearch.aspx>