



AqP

Designated Aquatic Professional

One of the main goals of the Association of Aquatic Professionals is to assist in the recognition of individuals in the aquatic field as professionals. Our first step is the development of the aquatic professionals designation. Become recognized in the Aquatic Profession as a Designated Aquatic Professional (AqP). Stand out among your peers and obtain this designation through a combination of education, experience and certifications. Information on obtaining this distinguished designation will be forthcoming.

Do you want to be recognized as an Aquatic Professional within the aquatic industry? Then this designation is for you. Through a combination of education, experience and training you may be recognized as an AqP.

Benefits

- Entry in Registry (Online list of professionals)
- Use of Registry Designation (eg. AqP)
- Certificate (suitable for framing)
- Conference Nametag Designation
- Access to Registry apparel with designation.
- Stand out as a Professional in the Aquatics Industry

Core Requirements

1. Current member of the Association of Aquatic Professionals – You must be a current member of the Association of Aquatic Professionals and maintain membership throughout your designation period.

Participants must possess the following as a base to apply for the designation:

- A. Certifications/Trainings: RESPECT Drowning Prevention Education (Either through attendance at this session at the AOAP Conference or through participation in the AOAP RESPECT Webinar.
- B. Aquatic Operations Training (Must possess a current certificate in AFO/CPO/PPM+/Aqua Tech or equivalent)
- C. Lifeguard Instructor and/or Water Safety Instructor Certification (ARC/Ellis/Starfish/YMCA or equivalent)
- D. CPR/AED and First Aid Certification

Experience Requirements

Applicants will list applicable work experience. Successful applicants should have a minimum of 2 years full-time aquatics experience. (4 years part time)

Value Component

Safety Oriented Excellence Driven Commitment (This consists of signing off on a value and safety commitment statement)

Continuing Education

3.0 CEU's Required

Participants must complete 3 hours of training in the following categories, plus an additional 18 hours of elective training. (Total of 30 hours or 3.0 CEU's)

NOTE: 4 of these hours will need to be earned by either attending the highlighted 4 sessions (1 under each category below) while at attendance at the AOAP Conference or through participation in the AOAP Webinar Series (4 of them) to meet the requirement.

- Programming & Staff Training
- Drowning Prevention
- Risk Management / Legal Liability
- Leadership / Executive Development

Elective educational area could include the topics above and : Marketing / Fundraising / Development Aquatic Sports Coaching/Officiating Aquatic Operations (technical) Budgeting & Financial Management Paddle Sports Training (Kayaking, Canoeing, SUP, etc.) Hazardous Materials / Chemical Training Teaching Lifeguarding/CPR (no more than 5 hours) Advanced Medical Training Publishing about Aquatic Topics Presenting Aquatic Information at state, regional or national conferences

* College Education

2.0 CEUs Required (May not be used to complete other requirements)

College Credits:

60+ credits completed – 1.0 CEU equivalent

120+ credits completed – 2.0 CEU equivalent

Maximum allowable 4.0 CEU

** In Lieu of College Education

If you have not completed any college education than it is required, for your initial designation application, that you have completed an additional 4.0 CEU's (40 hours) within the electives below.

If you have completed 60 college credits than you would need to obtain an additional 2.0 CEU's (20 hours) under the electives below.

(for an initial Certification you may go back 5 years from the application date for CEU credits)

Initial Designation Period

The Designation Aquatic Professional (AqP) will be good for 3 years.

Renewal

In order to renew the designation one must maintain core requirements and complete all requirements in continuing education

Confirm ethics and values statement (this is an ethics and value statement that is signed and submitted via the application process)

Fees

Initial Registration Fee - \$125.00

Renewal Fee – \$75.00

Appendix A Approved Governing Agencies for Certification

Requirements: **Aquatic Operations Training (AFO/CPO or equivalent)**

NSPF Certified Pool Operator Course

NRPA Aquatic Facility Operator Course

Aqua Tech

Practical Pool Management +

Lifeguarding Instructor and/or Water Safety Instructor

American Red Cross YMCA of the USA StarGuard

Ellis & Associates

NASCO

Boy Scouts of America

CPR/AED and First Aid Certification

American Red Cross YMCA of the USA StarGuard

Ellis & Associates

NASCO

Boy Scouts of America American Heart Association National Safety Council

American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI) Emergency Care and Safety Institute

International Certifications: Please contact the national office for equivalents.

How do I apply? - *There is an on-line application process that all applicants will fill out. The on-line application is located on this page in the left hand column under On-Line AqP Application. Once you have all of the requirements for obtaining the designation you may fill out the application and submit it to the Association of Aquatic Professionals for approval. (You may start the application and complete it at any time by saving it with a password). The application consists of a checklist and areas where you will be required to upload proof of education, certifications, training, etc. (The required items and areas of education are listed on the qualification sheet)*

How long does the designation last? - *The designation is for a three (3) year period. You may check on your designation anytime on the AOAP Education Tracker. The log in information is supplied at the time you receive your initial designation.*

How do I keep track of my designation? - *You may keep track of your designation at any time by going to the AOAP on-line Education Tracker to check on your status.*

How do I renew my designation? - *You will fill out a renewal application prior to your designation expiring. The renewal application will include a checklist of qualifications as well as an area to upload certifications and proof of attendance at educational events.*

**** Please note that this designation means that an individual has the education, background and training for what the AOAP believes describes an aquatic professional. In no way does it guarantee that an individual will perform any specific job duties or requirements.**