

International Surf Schools and Instructors Association



Surf/SUP/Surf Dog Instructors and Coaches Initial Application

(PRINT CLEARLY)

Name _____ Date _____

Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Name of school (if any) _____

Accreditation applying for:

Level: Surfing Apprentice ____ Instructor ____ Senior ____ Master ____

(Check one based on qualifications detailed herein)

Certifications: Surf Instructor ____ SUP Ocean ____ SUP Inland (flatwater) ____

Surf Coach ____ SUP Coach ____ Surf Dog ____

(Check all applying for)

Application Submission Instructions:

Submit this page only with supporting documentation (you do not need a complete all documentation to get started) and \$50 basic one certification (non-refundable) fee plus \$10 for each additional certification. Dog Instructor certification is \$25. Note that there is an additional \$50 fee for the final class and certification.

Mail to:

NSSIA

P.O. Box 550

Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732

Make check or money order payable to NSSIA.

Note: Applications received without payment will not be processed. Not all pages of this application need be submitted.

Note: Within two weeks of submission you will be notified about a mandatory one hour online orientation and self study kickoff session. This is not the formal class.

For the Surf Dog certification, you will be contacted regarding further requirements

Note: NSSIA indorsed instructor training may be acceptable for instructor experience.

Note: There is an additional classroom fee once you complete the surf or SUP self study. Upon receipt of this application, the NSSIA will allow you access to our instructor's manual and email you the self-examination, and a liability release to be signed and returned. The examination is keyed to the instructor's manual. You have up to 6 months to complete the self study, or up to one year upon request. When the self study examination and release are returned, and all reference letters have been received, you will be provisionally certified until such time as you can attend a formal NSSIA certification class. It is strongly encouraged that you complete the self study course before attending

the classroom course. Classroom courses are taught at various locations and by individual master level instructors throughout the year and include an additional charge.

Recertification does not require a re- examination. Formal classroom training requirements for non- US instructors are determined on a case by case basis. If you are currently certified by another internationally recognized organization the classroom portion of this certification can be waived.

Surf and/or SUP School Owners Note: You must complete the individual NSSIA instructor certification program before your school can apply for NSSIA school accreditation or the NSSIA insurance programs.

Per the instructions below, on a separate sheet or using the template that will be emailed to you, provide a detailed record of employment/instruction activities, certifications, or attach information as indicated. Also, include any NSSIA training (location, date, etc.) that may be relevant.

Requirement 1

For coaching, surf or SUP, your personal resume to include: your surf teaching job history, surf organizational involvement, major competitions, and judging experience, if any. Template will also be provided separately.

Requirement 2

Copies of Certificates (CPR & First Aid plus include other instructor certifications if

Requirement 3

Evidence of number of years of surfing or SUP experience to support the level you are applying for - 7 years minimum (surf) or 2 years minimum (SUP). No surf dog or surf coaching experience required. This evidence can take the form of a picture, article, or be part of a recommendation letter. Note that if you claim to have surfed before 8 years old, be prepared to prove it.

Requirement 4

List your school, instructor, and/or coaching references the NSSIA will be receiving. Only one letter is required if submitted by a senior or master level instructor.

Note: Recommendation letters on your behalf should be sent or emailed by the surf schools and individuals identified on this application directly to the NSSIA. You will be notified of acceptance status when all supporting documentation is received.

Requirement 5 (as applicable for advanced level certifications)

Submit either the advertising brochure for your school, or a copy of your website page, plus a photo of you giving a lesson.

Other Information for Consideration

Formal education and/or teaching certificate in education

Copy of supporting articles published about you, your programs, or articles you have written

Memberships in Surfrider, surf clubs, recreation groups, etc.

Contracts you have received from large corporations, government agencies, educational institutions, etc. related to surf instruction

List of surfing events you have directed. Note competitive background will have some bearing on your certification level, but only as a surf coach.

Depending on your background, these are the current Certification Levels (Surf) you can apply for:

Apprentice - Level 1 - SURF

- Accredited school or instructor reference
- Sign a waiver certificate that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved surf etiquette/water safety training in their programs and that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved Surf School code of ethics.
- Minimum of 7 years verifiable surfing experience.

Note: Entry level applicants with no experience will also be placed in this category for a minimum of 2 years. They must subsequently receive a minimum score on the self study and the classroom exam to be advanced.

Apprentice - Level 1 - SUP

- 1 years experience as a SUP instructor in a licensed school (inland or ocean).
- 2 school or instructor references
- Sign a waiver certificate that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved surf etiquette/water safety training in their programs and that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved Surf School code of ethics.

Instructor – Level 2 - SURF

- 3 years experience as a surf instructor or a high score on the classroom exam.
- 1 accredited school or certified instructor references
- Sign a waiver certificate that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved surf etiquette/water safety training in their programs and that they will read and will implement the NSSIA approved Surf

School code of ethics.

- CPR certificate.
- Minimum of 10 years verifiable surfing experience.

Instructor – Level 2 - SUP

- 2 years experience as a SUP instructor (ocean or inland).
- 1 school or instructor references.
- Sign a waiver certificate that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved surf etiquette/water safety training in their programs and that they will read and will implement the NSSIA approved Surf School code of ethics.
- CPR certificate.
- Minimum of 5 years verifiable SUP experience.

Senior – Level 3 - SURF

- 5 years experience as a surf instructor
- Sign a waiver certificate that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved surf etiquette/water safety training in their programs and that they will read and will implement the NSSIA approved Surf School code of ethics.
- CPR and First Aid certificates.
- Minimum of 10 years verifiable surfing experience.

Note: Applicants must subsequently receive a minimum score on the self study and the classroom exam to be advanced to this level. Additionally there is a supplemental exam required and all must undergo a background investigation.

Senior – Level 3 - SUP

- 3 years experience as a SUP instructor (must include 1 year ocean)
- Sign a waiver certificate that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved surf etiquette/water safety training in their programs and that they will read and will implement the NSSIA approved Surf School code of ethics.
- CPR certificate.
- Minimum of 5 years verifiable SUP experience.

Master - Level 4 - SURF

- 8 years working as a surf instructor
- 1 certified master instructor endorsement*
- Sign a waiver certificate that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved surf etiquette/water safety training in their programs and that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved Surf School code of ethics.
- CPR and First Aid certificates.
- Minimum of 15 years verifiable surfing experience.
- Criminal Background investigation (performed by NSSIA).

- Must be able to complete and pass the NSSIA Senior/Master level supplement.

Note: Applicants must subsequently receive a minimum score on the self study and the classroom exam to be advanced to this level. Additionally there is a supplemental exam required and all must undergo a background investigation. Master level instructors normally have co-presented a certification class, recruited other instructors, and can advance to class instructors with approval from NSSIA.

Master - Level 4 - SUP

- 6 years working as a SUP instructor (must include 3 years ocean).
- 4 accredited school or certified instructor references. (TBD)
- 1 certified master instructor endorsement*
- Sign a waiver certificate that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved surf etiquette/water safety training in their programs and that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved Surf School code of ethics.
- CPR certificate.
- Minimum of 7 years verifiable SUP experience.
- Criminal Background investigation (performed by NSSIA).

Master level instructors can advance to class instructors with approval from NSSIA.

Coach – (SURF ONLY)

- 2 years experience as a competitor and/or contest judge
- 1 letter of recommendation from an athletic director or letter of recommendation from a current or former top 25 professional surfer, contest director, judge, or coach.
- Sign a certificate that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved surf etiquette/water safety training in their programs and that they have read and will implement the NSSIA approved Surf School code of ethics.
- CPR certificate.
- Minimum of 10 years verifiable surfing experience.
- Must be able to pass the NSSIA surf coaching supplement and exam.

Coach – (SUP)

- 3 years SUP experience
- 2 years SUP instructor
- 1 year coaching experience any sport
- 2 years race history experience (competitor or coach)
- Must be able to pass the NSSIA SUP coaching supplement and exam.

Exceptions

† At this time both colleges and lifeguard groups offer surfboard lessons and surfboard classes. Recommendations and proof of experience in these venues is also acceptable.

† Additional Experience: Formal training in a NSSIA sponsored and endorsed

instructors' training course or similar international course may be acceptable for up to one additional year of instructor experience.

† If an applicant cannot meet the 2 accredited surf schools, 2 certified instructors, or top 25 professional references requirements, but are otherwise qualified, they may submit their application with non-accredited references. Certifications will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

*Military instructor applicants will be considered on a case by case basis.

Surf Dog Instructor Requirements

For those of you who are certified NSSIA surf instructors, completion of the additional surf dog self-study program, will provisionally certify you to be a surf dog instructor. If you are not already surf or SUP certified, one recommendation letter is required. . Applying only as a surf dog instructor requires no additional recommendation letters

For the surf dog certification, you are expected to attend and complete, an on the beach training session when it is offered in your area, plus the additional online self study program.

Master level certification requirements are determined based on a master level recommendation.