

USAG Testing Information

As you acquire higher ratings as a women's judge you receive raises and become eligible for more judging opportunities. You should also be aware of the testing cycles and when you need to acquire a certain rating to know when you're eligible to take the National Course if you choose to do so.

Disclaimer: This document will guide you through the USAG [Judges Accreditation/Master Testing Schedule](#) page BUT IS NOT AN OFFICIAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION. USA Gymnastics is always the true source of information.

Available Courses & Exams

USA Gymnastics offers several exams, some of them are required while some are optional. See below for more information.

Important Notes

Before we cover courses and exams, please review the following important notes related to exams:

- You can take each part of an exam (theoretical and practical) up to four times in a certification year
 - Certification years run from August 1 through July 30
- Theoretical (written) tests are 50 questions, online and open book
 - You'll get 60 minutes to take the exam and you can pause for breaks between each section
 - There are five sections: General Deductions, Vault, Uneven Bars, Beam, Floor
 - You must score 70% to pass
- Practical (video) exams are taken in person and consist of one demo routine per event, followed by 6 routines to be judged with the lowest scoring routine being dropped from your final results
 - You must register by 11:59 PM ET one week prior to the practical exam
 - You are allowed your own technical materials for practical exams (i.e. Flipcharts, code of points, etc.)
 - USAG does not share the range used to calculate your score on practical exams
- The [NAWGJ](#) website offers a massive amount of information to help prepare for testing including:
 - [Study Materials](#)
 - [Practice Judging](#)
 - [Test Prep](#)

Non-required Courses & Exams

Xcel Bronze/Silver/Gold Judges' Course and Judges' Accreditation

The Xcel courses and exams are **optional** but can also be used for acquiring CPE credit and/or National Course credit. Click [here](#) to access the course and [here](#) to register for the exam for bronze/silver/gold.

Xcel Platinum/Diamond/Sapphire Judges' Course

Similar to the bronze/silver/gold course the platinum/diamond sapphire course is **optional**, you can acquire CPE credit and/or National Course credit by completing the platinum/diamond/sapphire course. Click [here](#) to access the course.

Level 6/7 Educational Course/Study Materials

USA Gymnastics offers an **optional** course covering levels 6 and 7, there is no rating associated with this course but it can be used for CPE credit. Click [here](#) to register for the course.

Required Exams

Online Level 4/5 Compulsory Judging Exam

The level 4/5 exam is only available online and is written only. Click [here](#) to register for the exam, note although you are not required to register with USA Gymnastics to take the exam, you must have a username/password in order to register for the exam.

A level 4/5 rating is **required** in order to judge compulsory USAG competitors. This is also the ONLY time you do not have a waiting period to take the next required exam. You can immediately take the level 8 written and practical exams and Indiana NAWGJ highly recommends you take advantage of this. There are very few meets you will be able to judge with only a level 4/5 rating.

Optional Level 7/8 Course & Exam

You can take the 7/8 theoretical (written) and level 8 practical exams simultaneously with the level 4/5 theoretical (written) exam. There is no waiting period and Indiana NAWGJ highly recommends you take advantage of this to be eligible to judge more meets.

A level 7/8 rating is **required** in order to judge optional USAG competitors up to level 8. Click [here](#) to access the course (optional) and [here](#) to register for the theoretical (written) exam.

Practical exams are taken live, click [here](#) to review the available days/times/locations for all practical exams including level 8.

Optional Level 9 Course & Exam

In order to take the level 9 theoretical (written) and practical exams, you must have held your 7/8 rating for a year. USAG offers a 30 day grace period for the practical exam meaning you can register for the level 9 practical up to 30 days prior to the one year anniversary of acquiring your level 7/8 rating. There is NO grace period when registering for the theoretical (written) exam.

A level 9 rating is **required** in order to judge optional USAG competitors up to level 9. Click [here](#) to access the level 9 course (optional but recommended) and [here](#) to register for the theoretical (written) exam. Practical exams are taken live, click [here](#) to review the available days/times/locations for all practical exams including level 9.

Optional Level 10/National/Brevet Course & Exam

In order to take the level 10 theoretical (written) and practical exams, you must have held your 9 rating for a year. USAG offers a 30 day grace period for the practical exam meaning you can register for the level 10 practical up to 30 days prior to the one year anniversary of acquiring your level 9 rating. There is NO grace period when registering for the theoretical (written) exam.

A level 10 rating is **required** in order to judge optional USAG competitors up to level 10. Click [here](#) to access the level 10 course (optional but recommended) and [here](#) to register for the theoretical (written) exam. Practical exams are taken live, click [here](#) to review the available days/times/locations for all practical exams including level 9.

Note: The level 10 course is the same as the National/Brevet course. For more information on the National/Brevet course, please reference the USA Gymnastics [2026-30 USA Brevet & National Judges Course](#) page and utilize [this](#) unofficial document to better understand the course.

Miscellaneous

Please reference the USAG [Judges Accreditation/Master Testing Schedule](#) page to review additional information around testing, including:

- Registration deadlines
- Exam retakes and versions
- Cancellations/transfers/refunds

