



How to Become a Technical Panel Official for U.S. Figure Skating

There are four different technical panel certifications available through U.S. Figure Skating:

1. Technical Controller
2. Technical Specialist
3. Data Operator
4. Video Replay Operator

For a description of each position, see the [U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook](#), Rules 1250, 1260, 1270 and 1280.

Technical Controllers and Technical Specialists can be certified in up to four disciplines: (1) singles, (2) pairs, (3) dance and (4) synchronized skating.

Data Operators and Video Replay Operators can be certified in up to two disciplines: (1) singles/pairs/dance and (2) synchronized skating.

How to become certified as a Technical Controller:

The only way to become certified as a technical controller for U.S. Figure Skating is to attend a National Technical Panel Seminar and pass the exam consisting of a written portion and a practical portion. The application for each seminar doubles as the application for initial certification. Seminars are typically held each spring. For information on any currently scheduled seminars, please visit the [Technical Panel Officials page online](#). If no seminars are scheduled, please check back later.

In order to test for an appointment at a seminar, the candidate must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Must be at least 21 years of age;
- Must be a U.S. Figure Skating judge of the rank of regional competition level or above in the discipline in which the candidate would like to serve;
- Must have the highest technical knowledge of the skating discipline in which the candidate would like to serve;
- Must be able to take directions and work well in a team environment;
- Must adhere to the ethics policy established by the Technical Panel Committee.

If you are interested in becoming a technical controller and meet the qualifications listed above, submit an application to test at a National Technical Panel Seminar. If no seminars are scheduled, continue to check the [U.S. Figure Skating website](#) until a seminar is scheduled, and follow the instructions on how to apply.



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How to become certified as a Technical Specialist:

The only way to become certified as a technical specialist for U.S. Figure Skating is to attend a National Technical Panel Seminar and pass the exam consisting of a written portion and a practical portion. The application for each seminar doubles as the application for initial certification. Seminars are typically held each spring. For information on any currently scheduled seminars, please visit the [Technical Panel Officials page online](#). If no seminars are scheduled, please check back later.

In order to test for an appointment at a seminar, the candidate must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Must be at least 21 years of age;
- Must be either:
 1. A former senior or junior competition at a sectional championship in the discipline in which the candidate would like to serve or, for singles only, a former senior competitor at a regional championship in a singles event;
 2. The coach/coaches responsible for 50 percent or more of three such competitors' training described in (1) above;
 3. A sectional-level competition judge in the discipline in which the candidate would like to serve;
- Must have the highest technical knowledge of the skating discipline in which the candidate would like to serve;
- Must be able to take directions and work well in a team environment;
- Must adhere to the ethics policy established by the Technical Panel Committee.

If you are interested in becoming a technical specialist and meet the qualifications listed above, submit an application to test at a National Technical Panel Seminar. If no seminars are scheduled, continue to check the [U.S. Figure Skating website](#) until a seminar is scheduled, and follow the instructions on how to apply.



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How to become certified as a Data Operator:

The only way to become certified as a data operator for U.S. Figure Skating is to attend a National Technical Panel Seminar and pass the exam consisting of a written portion and a practical portion. The application for each seminar doubles as the application for initial certification. Seminars are typically held each spring. For information on any seminars currently scheduled, please visit the [Technical Panel Officials page online](#). If no seminars are currently scheduled, please check back later.

In order to test for an appointment at a seminar, the candidate must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Must be at least 21 years of age;
- Must have a high degree of technical knowledge of the skating discipline in which the candidate would like to serve;
- Must have good computer skills and be familiar with the data entries corresponding to the called elements;
- Must be able to take directions and work well in a team environment;
- Must adhere to the ethics policy established by the Technical Panel Committee.

If you are interested in becoming a data operator and meet the qualifications listed above, submit an application to test at a National Technical Panel Seminar. If no seminars are scheduled, continue to check the [U.S. Figure Skating website](#) until a seminar is scheduled and follow the instructions on how to apply.



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How to become certified as a Video Replay Operator:

There are two ways to become certified as a video replay operator for U.S. Figure Skating.

1. Attend a National Technical Panel Seminar and become certified as a technical controller, technical specialist or data operator as explained above. Any candidate who receives an appointment as a controller, specialist or data operator automatically receives a video replay operator appointment at the same level.
2. Per rule TPCR 4.04 (I), in the event the chief referee at a nonqualifying competition determines that there is a need for additional video operators, a short training session will be conducted on site. The training will be assigned to a certified video operator. Upon successful completion, the candidate will be approved to act as a video operator only at the specified competition. The candidate may apply to the Technical Panel Committee for official certification as a video operator following the competition using the [Video Appointment Application](#).

In order to test for an appointment at a seminar, the candidate must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Must be at least 21 years of age;
- Must have a high degree of technical knowledge of the skating discipline in which the candidate would like to serve;
- Must have good computer skills and be familiar with the skating elements of the skating discipline in which the candidate serves;
- Must be able to take directions and work well in a team environment;
- Must adhere to the ethics policy established by the Technical Panel Committee.