



National Category 1-4 Question and Answer

General

Q? Who can sign my National course Documentation?

A. USA Gymnastics State, Regional, or National Committee Chair or NAWGJ SJD, RJD, or National Officer for *Education* and *Service* credits. Officers may sign **ONLY** if they are **present** at the Event you are getting a signature for. **ONLY** your RTCC may sign for *Leadership* credits.

Q? I have multiple forms. Which ones do I need to turn in by November 1, 2029?

A. You will need to turn your National *Eligibility* form, *Documentation* form, and **ALL** *Leadership* forms.

Q? What form do I use to collect signatures for required activities?

A. You will collect signatures on the *Documentation Form*. The *Eligibility* form is only for your totals each year and will be submitted by Nov. 1, 2029, in addition to the *Documentation* form.

Achieving Credits

Q? When does the accumulation of credits toward the 2030-2034 National Category 1-4 eligibility begin?

A. Accumulating credits toward the National course eligibility begins November 1, 2025.

Q? What are the required credits for each Category?

A. Minimum Category credit requirements are listed on the *Category Description & Eligibility Criteria table*.

Q? Can I move up a Category within a cycle?

A. No, you must hold a Category for a full cycle. Credits earned for the next cycle (2030-2034), in addition to longevity, will determine which Category you are able to apply for.

Q? Regarding clinic credits. What does the up to arrow indicate?

A. The arrow indicates the credits could be broken down, the up to arrow indicates the potential total credits that could be earned.

Education

Q? What is the difference between attending and volunteering at a State or Regional Clinic/Congress?

A. "Attending" (*Education*) would include observation, possible scripting routines, attending lectures. "Working" (*Service*) would include duties at registration, room monitor, support personnel.

Q? May I receive *Education* credits for attending a USAG State or Regional Training Camp?

A. You may receive Education credit only if there is a clinic setting offered in conjunction with the camp. There must be a clinician, structured lectures, and have CPE approval.

Q? Will J501 count for Education credit?

A. If you are a current Brevet or National rated judge, **no**, J501 will not count for Education credit. It is part of the requirement to earn your 2026 Brevet/National rating.

Service

Q? What Credits do you get for being an elected officer?

A. SACC/RAC/RTCC/RXCC and SJD/RJD will receive 2 credits (1 credit for *Service* and 1 credit for *Leadership*) per year of service, beginning with 2026. *Note, an elected officer will function as ONE (1) Event. Example, an SJD who serves 3 years of their term during a cycle, will receive 3 Service credits and 3 Leadership credits and the SJD position will be counted as 1 Event.

Q? How many credits do you receive for being elected as a co-SJD?

A. Co-SJD's will both receive 1 credit for *Service* and 1 credit for *Leadership*.

Q? What Credits do you get for being an State elected USAG or NAWGJ committee member?

A. Elected committee members will receive 1 Service credit per year of service, beginning in 2026.

Q? Will former elected officers receive credits retroactively?

A. No, the initial roll-out of the Category program in 2023 allowed for credits to be reported retroactively. Moving forward only credits earned within the 2026-30 cycle will apply to the 2030 application.

Q? How do I Volunteer at a Regionals, East/West, or Dev National Championships?

A. Contact your RTCC for guidance. (1 credit per session, max 4 per event).

Q? How do I become a volunteer coordinator for Regionals, East/West, or Dev National Championships.

A. IF this position is utilized in your Region, contact your RTCC for guidance. Regional coordinator-4 credits max for the coordinator and 4 credits max for volunteering, for a total of 8 credits. If you are interested in being a volunteer coordinator at E/W or Dev Nationals, contact the RTCC in the Region hosting the event-4 credits max for the coordinator position and 4 credits max for volunteering, for a total of 8 credits.

Q? How do I volunteer at Winter Cup/US Classics/US Championships/Olympic Trials?

A. The National office is in charge of these positions and will reach out as needed.

Q? Will volunteering at National Judges' Cup count?

A. Yes, there are multiple duties available for the weekend. To earn volunteer credit, you may not accept any stipend your state may offer (travel and lodging are not included). 3 credits max.

Q? Will volunteering at a State Judges' Cup count?

A. NO, Judges Cups at the State level often involve reimbursements for Education, memberships, materials, etc. *Note Judges Cups at the State level do not count as volunteer hours for general CPE either.

Q? May a CPE Coordinator receive 1 Service credit per year of service?

A. Yes/No

1. If the CPE coordinator is not an elected NAWGJ committee chair or NAWGJ committee member, then they would be eligible to earn 1 Service credit per year of service as the CPE Coordinator.
2. If the CPE Coordinator appointed by the SACC is an elected NAWGJ SJD or elected NAWGJ Committee member, then they can earn 1 Service credit per year of service as the CPE Coordinator in addition to what they earn yearly as the SJD or NAWGJ committee member.
3. If the CPE coordinator is the USAG State Chair or elected committee member on the USAG Committee, whose job description/role includes being the CPE Coordinator, then they would not be eligible to earn any additional Service credits.
4. If the CPE Coordinator role is appointed on the USAG Committee in addition to their elected role, then an additional 1 Service credit may be earned each year.

Q? May a Mentor receive 1 Service credit per year of service?

A. Yes/No

1. If the Mentor is not an elected USAG/NAWGJ committee chair or USAG/NAWGJ committee member, then they would be eligible to earn 1 Service credit per year of service as a Mentor, regardless of how many mentees they are in charge of.
2. If the Mentor is an elected position, whose job description/role includes being a Mentor, then they would not be eligible to earn any additional Service credits.

Leadership

Q? What is the difference between attending and directing at a State or Regional Training camp?

A. "Attending" (*Education*) would include observation, possible scripting routines or sequences, or filling out a judges worksheet. "Directing" (*Leadership*) means you would be in charge of a station or part of the training camp that works directly with athletes, coaches, or judges. Contact your RTCC for more information.

Q? What does it mean to develop Judges Activity Station with athletes at State/Regional Training Camp?

A. This can be a classroom session, game, or activity. An original activity that teaches, reinforces rules, SV, Composition, etc. Contact your RTCC for more information.

Q? If I give a State Level Presentation, what are the rules?

A. Any presentation (State, Regional, National that is organized by USAG or NAWGJ) in which you are speaking, you must submit a Leadership approval form to your RTCC. Presentations must be 50–60 minutes. Credits awarded to Present, Co-present, Develop, Co-develop can be found on the Activity Involvement form and Presentation table.

Q? What if I organize a Clinic in my state. What credits do I get? Can this be Compulsory, Optional, or Xcel – Live or virtual.

A. Clinics for Leadership credit must be organized by USAG or NAWGJ. Tasks may include but are not limited to: Arrange for clinicians, develop the schedule, establish the format, create the flyer, collect registrations, etc. The clinic can be Compulsory, Optional, or Xcel and live or virtual. See corresponding credits on the Activity Involvement form and Presentation table. *Note, the maximum # of Leadership credits allowed per State event for organizing and presenting is **4 total** credits regardless of how many presentations are given.

Q? If I Attend Regional Congress or National Congress and also speak/present at a Regional/National Congress how many credits do I receive?

A. You will be recognized for both Education and Leadership activities and receive credit for both *Leadership* and *Education*. See the Activity Involvement form for a breakdown of credits.

Q? How do the credits work? Regional Present/Co-Present, National Present/Co-present, and Live vs Virtual.

A. See the Presentation table for breakdown.

Testing–applies to the 2026 Brevet/National testing ONLY

Q? I am a new Category 4, and I did not pass the practical exam, what do I do?

A. A new Category 4 may repeat the Practical exam to achieve the combined score required.

Q? I am testing Category 1–4 (R–Returning), and I did not achieve an event(s) score on the Practical verification, what do I do?

A. Category 1–4R judges will engage in a PIP for each event short of the score, just as in the past cycle.

Q? Is the scoring/testing different as I move up in Category?

A. Yes, both the online written and practical verification have increasing score expectations as you progress upward in the Categories.

Q? If this is my first time, I am eligible for the National course, may I apply for any Category?

A. No, you must apply and pass at Category 4 for one cycle. The next cycle you may choose to move up to Category 3 or remain at Category 4.

Q? After fulfilling one cycle as a Category 4, may I apply for any Category?

A. No, if you meet the eligibility requirements you may only apply for a Category 3 in the next cycle. After that you may choose to apply for any Category for which you are eligible.