

This is the application stage for the Swim England Senior Swimming Coach programme 2024/ 2025.

Great coaches shape and enrich the lives of those participating in our aquatic sports. They are the life-blood of our clubs and sports programmes; providing guidance, support and encouragement in order to help people to achieve their personal goals and aspirations.

Great coaching is central to our Swim England vision, Championing a healthy and successful nation through swimming and our mission to Improve the health and success of the nation by enabling access to aquatics for all.

The Senior Swimming Coach programme will equip you with the knowledge and skills to be able to create and deliver a holistic, individualised development programmes which optimise the potential of aspiring athletes, at both youth and senior level.

This year-long programme is delivered through a blend of online learning and face to face workshops. You will also be assigned a mentor who will provide bespoke in situ support throughout the duration of the course.

In order to achieve this certificate, you will be also expected to complete a series of assessment tasks to ensure that effective learning and development has taken place.

**The full programme cost is £2100.**

**Before applying to the programme, please note the following dates are compulsory for all learners to attend.**

**Pre Induction meeting Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 13:00 – 15:30 (15:00 – 15:30 Meet your Mentors)**

**Learning Day 1 Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Learning Day 2 Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Learning Day 3 Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Learning Day 4 Saturday 01<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

**If for any reason learners miss any of these days they will be required to attend an online catch up session at a mutually agreeable time with a member of the delivery team to cover the missed content. \*There will be an additional charge of up to £150 for this (depending on numbers).**

**The programme must be completed within 12 months.**

Applications open on Tuesday 01<sup>st</sup> May 2024 and need to be submitted by midnight on the Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

Shortlisting and appropriate checks will take place from Monday 03<sup>rd</sup> June 2024.

Applicants will be notified if they have been successful or after Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

There are up to 30 places available on the programme across England and Wales.

As part of the application process you will need to submit supporting evidence to confirm that you have met the essential pre-requisite criteria via WP Forms.

Before starting your application please make sure you meet the following pre-requisite criteria. Applications from coaches who do not meet these will not be eligible for this programme:

- Be at least 19 years of age at the start of the course.
- Hold a valid enhanced DBS check
- Hold a valid Safeguarding certificate as per SwimMark criteria
- Hold a Swim England Swimming Coach Certificate (or equivalent) for a minimum of 12 months
- Have a minimum of 12 months experience as a qualified swimming coach
- Listed on the Swim England Club Personnel Record (Teaching and Coaching Register).
- Coach at a SwimMark or Stronger Affiliation accredited club.
- Currently coaching for at least 10 hours per week, spanning a minimum of 5 sessions, with the same group of swimmers and can guarantee this will continue into the 2024/ 2025 season.
- Be the lead coach for a squad of swimmers throughout the programme duration and working with swimmers who are competing at regional level or above. \*You will need to provide evidence that you have coached at least five swimmers to regional or national standard in 2023/2024 and evidence that you will continue to coach at this level for the duration of the programme. Swimmers must be aged 13 years and over (as the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024).

Due to the high volume of applicants we receive, in addition to the criteria above priority will be given to coaches as follows:

1. Coaches who are the Head Coach of their club.
2. Coaches who can demonstrate their proactive approach to engaging with opportunities for ongoing learning; for example Talent Pathway coaching roles, Swim England Regional/ National conferences etc.

*\*Consideration will also be given to the geographical landscape in order to ensure that we have adequate coverage of swimming and para-swimming programmes that can offer a performance environment that can effectively cater for the needs of our aspiring athletes.*

*\*The quality of the application in general will be taken into account and background checks will be carried out as part of the screening process.*

**Please do not apply if you do not meet the above pre requisites.**

**If you are applying with overseas qualifications, you will follow a slightly different application process.**

The NGB recognise that there are coaches within the English system that have a *formal achievement from a training provider which is not Swim England, but is deemed to be of equivalent value, but not does not share the exact Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria.*

Therefore, on an annual basis, we will invite applications from coaches that fall into this category above, for assessment against the senior swimming coach certificate only.

Applicants must:

- Have been coaching athletes at a minimum of regional level or equivalent\* in their previous inhabited country.
- Be at least 19 years of age.
- Hold a valid DBS and Swim England approved Safeguarding certificate.
- Be listed on the Swim England Teaching and Coaching Register.
- Be coaching at a Swim England affiliated club.
- Currently coaching for at least 10 hours per week, spanning a minimum of 5 sessions, with the same group of athletes.
- Be the lead coach for a squad of 5 athletes who are competing at regional level or above.

\*With the exception of a coach working solely with Master's Swimmers, who would need to evidence working with athletes competing at national level or equivalent.

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As part of the application process you will need to submit supporting evidence to confirm that you have met the essential pre-requisite criteria via WP Forms.

Coaches with overseas qualifications who do not satisfy these criteria above and/or aren't of the required standard following their 1<sup>st</sup> assessment, will be signposted to a Coach course.

Assessment will be carried out by a Swim England mentor assessor and administered by the Institute of Swimming on behalf of Swim England.

**Please do not apply if you do not meet the above pre requisites.**