AqP Renewal Designation

The Association of Aquatic Professionals (AOAP) is the FIRST and ONLY organization to offer the Aquatic Professional Designation (AqP). One of the main goals of the Association is to assist in the recognition of individuals in the aquatic field as professionals. Our first step in accomplishing this is the development of the aquatic professional designation.

An AqP is a verified aquatic professional designated by the Association of Aquatic Professionals (AOAP) as having the necessary years of experience, certifications, education and/or continuing education to be nationally recognized for their qualifications within the aquatics management field.

Become recognized in the industry as a Designated Aquatic Professional (AqP). Stand out among your peers and obtain this designation through a combination of education, experience and certifications.

Do you want to be recognized as an Aquatic Professional within the aquatic industry? Then this designation is for you. Through a combination of education, experience and training you may be recognized as an AqP.

**BENEFITS**

- Entry in Registry (online list of professionals)
- Access to Registry apparel with designation
- Recognition as a Designated Aquatic Professional within the industry
- Use of the AqP Designation as a Credential
- Recognition via the AOAP e-newsletter upon successful completion
- Ability to set yourself apart from other candidates applying for aquatics management positions
- AqP Designation Certificate (suitable for framing)
- AqP Promotional Package
- Recognition at the AOAP Conference Opening Keynote Session
- AqP Designation on AOAP Conference Nametag
- AqP Premium at Conference
- Join a group of outstanding designated aquatic professionals from across the country

**RENEWAL**

In order to renew the designation, one must maintain core requirements, complete all requirements in continuing education, and reconfirm agreement with the ethics and values statement.
FEES
Designation Renewal Fee – **FREE**

*NOTE: Additional fees apply to complete online webinars for the continuing education requirement

CORE REQUIREMENTS

1. Current member of the Association of Aquatic Professionals – You must be a current member of the Association of Aquatic Professionals and maintain membership throughout your designation period.

Participants must possess the following as a base to apply for the designation:

A. Certifications/Trainings: RESPECT the Water Drowning Prevention Education (Either through attendance at this session at the AOAP Conference or through participation in the AOAP RESPECT Webinar.

B. Aquatic Operations Training (Must possess a current certificate in AFO/CPO/PPM+/Aqua Tech or equivalent

C. Lifeguard Instructor and/or Water Safety Instructor Certification (ARC/Ellis/Starfish/YMCA or equivalent)

D. CPR/AED and First Aid Certification

VALUES STATEMENT
Reconfirm agreement with an ethics and values statement (signed and submitted via the online application process)

EXPERIENCE
Continued work in the aquatics field

CONTINUING EDUCATION

2.0 CEU’s Required (20 hours)

Participants must complete 3 hours of training in each of the following categories, the 4 hours of CORE webinars or attending the 4 CORE sessions during a conference, plus an additional 13 hours of elective training. (Total of 20 hours or 2.0 CEU’s)

NOTE: 4 of these hours will need to be earned by either attending the highlighted 4 sessions (1 under each category below) while at attendance at the AOAP Conference or through participation in the AOAP Webinar Series (4 of them – Additional Fees apply) to meet the requirement. You may find those at: [https://aquaticpros.org/webinars/](https://aquaticpros.org/webinars/)

- Programming & Staff Training
- Drowning Prevention
- Risk Management / Legal Liability
- Leadership / Executive Development

NOTE: Elective educational area can include the topics above and no more than 0.2 or 2 hours in any given category below
MARKETING / FUNDRAISING / DEVELOPMENT
Aquatic Sports Coaching/Officiating
Aquatic Operations (technical)
Budgeting & Financial Management
Paddle Sports Training (Kayaking, Canoeing, SUP, etc.)
Hazardous Materials / Chemical Training
Teaching Lifeguarding/CPR or Advanced Medical Training
Publishing about Aquatic Topics (max .1 CEU’s for publishing an article)
Presenting Aquatic Information at state, regional or national conferences (max. 0.1 for doing presentations at any level)

(For designation renewal, you may go back 3 years from the application date for eligible CEU credits)

APPROVED GOVERNING AGENCIES FOR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Aquatic Operations Training (AFO/CPO or equivalent)
NSPF Certified Pool Operator Course
NRPA Aquatic Facility Operator Course
Aqua Tech
Practical Pool Management +

Lifeguarding Instructor and/or Water Safety Instructor

American Red Cross
YMCA of the USA
StarGuard
Ellis & Associates
NASCO
Boy Scouts of America

CPR/AED and First Aid Certification

American Red Cross
YMCA of the USA
StarGuard
Ellis & Associates
NASCO
Boy Scouts of America
American Heart Association
National Safety Council
American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI)
Emergency Care and Safety Institute

International Certifications: Please contact the national office for equivalents.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

How do I renew my AqP Designation? - There is an online application process that all applicants will fill out. The renewal application is located on the AOAP website: https://aquaticpros.org/aquatic-professional-designation/. Once you have completed all the requirements for obtaining the designation you may fill out the application and submit it to the Association of Aquatic Professionals for approval. The application consists of a checklist and areas where you will be required to upload proof of education, certifications, training, etc. (The required items and areas of education are listed on the qualification sheet)

How long does the designation last? - The designation is for a three (3) year period.

How do I keep track of my designation? - You may keep track of your designation at any time by contacting AOAP’s Executive Director/CEO, Juliene Hefter via info@aquaticpros.org.

** Please note that this designation means that an individual has the education, background and training for what the AOAP believes describes an aquatic professional. In no way does it guarantee that an individual will perform any specific job duties or requirements.