

In July 2022, World Athletics released information on their new World Athletics Referee Education and Certification System (WARECS) that replaces the Technical Official Education and Certification System (TOECS).

Effective January 1, 2025, USATF will use the modules within the World Athletics e-learning site (<https://elearning.worldathletics.org>) to begin the process to become a World Athletics Referee. The program is clear in the procedures and progression from Apprentice, to National Athletics Referee, and then World Athletics Referee Bronze, Silver and Gold. Attached is the initial letter from World Athletics. This is the same information shared at the 2024 Annual Convention.

The criteria for officials in the United States is as follows:

1. Apprentice Referee - Any official may take this WA online class regardless of your current certification within USATF. It covers all the various events within track, field and racewalk. The class modules can be repeated as many times as you wish. No official designation is given at this time.
2. National Athletic Referee (NAR) – Designation is given after completion of the WA online coursework, an exam, and a review of meets worked.
The candidate for this class will need to be a National or Master Level official. Referee experience is preferred for at least one year prior to submitting information. Meets that are acceptable for this designation are any USATF National, JO or Masters Championship. These meets do not need to be completed prior to the class. This NAR class covers the events in more detail, and is needed to be considered for the **World Athletics Referee - Bronze exam given by World Athletics**.
Racewalk officials looking to take the Bronze exam will need to complete this class.
3. Bronze Level Exam – Prerequisite: NAR level.
Three years of referee experience in track and field (WA requirement).
Applications will need to be submitted and approved by our NGB and submitted to WA. WAR-B referees **may** be used at some international meets within the USA and NACAC. At this writing there will not be a limit on the number of applicants.
4. WAR-Silver Referee exam given by WA.
Prerequisite: WAR-Bronze level with three years experience at Bronze level.
5. WAR-Gold Referee Exam given by World Athletics.
Prerequisite: Three years experience as a WAR-Silver level referee.