



UCWDC Judge Certification Examination Information & Frequently Asked Questions

The UCWDC has three levels of Judgeship: Fundamental, Journeyman, and Masters for both Couples and Line Dance.

There are four levels of testing: Entrance Exam, Fundamental, Journeyman, and Master's exam.

The Entrance Examination is a general knowledge exam of basic foundations applied to the dances which coincides with Curriculum # 1. These principles are applied to each of the dances. To be admitted into the program you must pass this exam. A qualified individual should have no problem demonstrating and discussing the topics as these are foundational to our sport.

The Fundamental Examination corresponds to Curriculum # 2. This examination covers all aspects of judging Newcomer and Novice levels.

The Journeyman Examination corresponds to Curriculum # 3. This examination covers all aspects of judging Intermediate and Advanced levels.

The Master Examination focusses on the highest levels of technique, artistry, as well as other important facets needed to judge our highest level.

Specifics of each examination

A. Entrance examination: There are two parts of the entrance examination.

1. Since examinations are administered on zoom or in locations where space is limited, a short video of the candidate demonstrating the dances being evaluated. (You will receive detailed instructions). We ask you to use your phone to video. Master dancers who apply to become a judge may request an exemption from submitting a video if they have had two students in the top 5 of at Worlds Competition in the Intermediate or Advanced Divisions.
2. The oral test is based on Curriculum # 1 which is a foundational curriculum which supports this exam.
The curriculum can be found on the Judge Certification page.
3. Upon successful completion of the test, "Apprentice Status" is granted. Your name will appear on the judge pool roster as an "Apprentice." This means that you have completed the entrance exam and are in the process of completing the next level of testing while working on apprentice items.
4. The Entrance Exams is 2 hours long. You will take one half of the examination with one examiner and the other half with a second examiner. You have 15 months to complete this exam beginning when accepted into the program (although we encourage you to complete the examination as soon as possible). This exam is available online or in person.



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B. Fundamental Examination: Taken after passing the Entrance Examination.

1. This exam will test Curriculum # 2: Newcomer/Novice Curriculum.
(Found on the judge certification website).
2. You have 2 years to complete this section (although we encourage you to complete it as soon as possible).
3. This examination is 3 hours long, using two examiners. Please note: if a line item on this test is not successfully passed, provisions will be granted. This means you will need to re-study
and re-take the portion of the test that was not completed.
Note: Re-testing will require an additional fee, so please be prepared.
5. In addition to the examination, you will need to complete an “apprentice form” which covers judging.
concepts such as rules, mock judging, scoring and other important considerations.
6. Upon successful completion of the examination and the apprentice work, you will receive “Fundamental.
Status” and you may begin to judge Newcomer/Novice levels.

C. Journeyman Examination:

1. The Journeyman exam will test on Curriculum # 3: Intermediate/Advance Curriculum.
(Found on the Judge Certification website)
2. You have 2 years to complete this section (although we encourage you to complete the examination as soon as possible). Upon completion you will receive “Journeyman Status
“certifying you to judge newcomer through advanced levels.
3. This examination is 3 hours long, splitting between two examiners. Please note: if a line item on
is not successfully passed, provisions will be granted. This means you will need to re-study
and re-take the portion of the test that was not completed.
Note: you must be a Journeyman judge to judge at the UCWDC World Championship.

D. Master Examination:

1. The highest level of Adjudicator is the Master Level Status. To test for this level, you must submit a current resume indicating current training you are receiving, teaching, and coaching status (include levels), competitive results for yourself or students (lists levels and placements) and how often you are judging. Please include all information that shows you are actively involved in our dancesport to the Vice President of Judge Certification.
2. The judge certification committee will review your request and resume. Upon acceptance, you have 2 years to complete the examination. The examination is 4 hours long. Two or more examiners will be used for this test.



Frequently Asked Questions

How do I prepare for the examinations? If you are applying to become a judge, you should already have the knowledge needed to pass the examinations. However, you will want to prepare such that you are able to easily describe, discuss and demonstrate all test material. Please go online and download the documents on the Judge Certification website, specifically the fundamental curriculum, methodology, feedback comments and the standards of the dances. You may want to train someone to be sure you are knowledgeable in all areas.

Who should I study with? You should study with those individuals who will assist you based on your learning style. Please see the official UCWDC Educators List on the UCWDC website. However, you may use current judges, or professionals of your choice. As you oversee your own training, we encourage you to study with various individuals, so you have a well-rounded view of the material. It is important that during the examination you can demonstrate and discuss all points of the curriculum.

Who will be my examiner(s)? All examiners are listed on the UCWDC website. You choose two examiners for your examination. Testing is available online as well as in person.