

Frequently Asked Questions – Colorado Referees

Becoming A Referee

Who can become a US Soccer Certified Referee?

Anyone who has passed their 13th birthday can become a Referee. Requirements for Grassroots Referee Certification include completing the New Grassroots Referee Certification course which includes online learning modules and an in-person session. For those age 18 and above, it also includes annual SafeSport Certification and the NCSI Gold Standard Background Check (additional fee applies)

What Does It Cost to Become A Soccer Referee in Colorado?

The costs to become a referee include the course as well as first year's registration with US Soccer.

The total is \$90 and breaks down this way:

- \$20.00 - US Soccer annual registration (listed as surcharge)
- \$30.00 - Colorado annual registration
- \$40.00 New referee training course fee

For anyone age 18 or older, there is an additional cost for the required background check.

- \$30.00 – NCSI Background Check (good for 2 years) US Soccer requirement

What If I Just Want to Learn More About Becoming A Referee?

The **Colorado Online Course** is for those people who think they may want to become a referee but aren't sure yet – sort of a *Try it Before You Buy It* program. It is a part of the full Grassroots First Time Referee Course that we have opened to help people learn about becoming a referee without investing in the registration fees initially. It is not for anyone who wants to start working games immediately because it is a 'sampler' course – not the full referee training.

How Do I Pick A Grassroots Referee Course To Attend?

To help everyone who is interested become a referee, Colorado offers the **Grassroots First Time Referee** course in two formats: on-the-field session (held at a local soccer facility) or in-person zoom sessions.

While anyone who has passed their 13th birthday can attend the zoom in-person sessions or the on-the-field in-person sessions, we strongly recommend that those age 13 – 15 attend an on-the-field in-person session.

The on-the-field sessions often involve actual scrimmages to put your knowledge into practice and always include involve participation drills to simulate game situations.

The zoom in-person sessions, which also do require active participation (meaning the student must be able to use video and audio of their computer) and space to do limited drill activities, relies more heavily on video review, analysis, and discussion.

The in-person zoom sessions are usually more appropriate for those who have more years of being a soccer participant (player, parent, coach) or do well in other online classroom situations. For the grassroots referee, there are no 'physical tests' for certification. Upon completion of all the requirements of the course, (online modules and in-person session), students are granted their grassroots referee license.

To see the list of currently offered courses, visit this link: [Current New Referee Courses](#)

What Do I Do After Attending A Class?

Upon completion of your course, you will receive a Welcome Letter from Colorado Referees and a Congratulation email from US Soccer. In the Welcome Letter will be links to the Colorado Guide for Referees and payroll documents as well as instructions about how to create your personal account in our game assignment platform.

If you didn't purchase a uniform before attending class, you will need to get your gear so you can start working games.

And then you will need to list your availability in our game assignment platform so assignors can get you working!

How Do I Get A Referee Uniform and Kit?

As discussed during your online modules and in class, there are things you need as a Referee to do your job. Where and how you purchase those is your personal decision as long as they meet the official uniform requirements as listed [HERE](#).

OSI (Officials Sports International) is the official supplier of uniforms to US Soccer. You can purchase from their [website](#) or the local representative in Colorado, [Lela Marcin](#).

However, you may purchase your uniform and kit from anywhere (Amazon, Wal-Mart, other equipment stores) as long as it meets the official requirements.

How Do I Get Game Assignments?

Most Colorado assignors use a web-based game assignment platform to assign games. When you create your account in the assignment platform, local assignors will be able to 'import' you into their groups. It is your responsibility to tell the assignors when you can work by using the availability calendar in the platform. Colorado Assignors use a

platform that assumes you can't work – unless you tell us otherwise. There are more details about adding availability in the Colorado Guide for Referees which is linked in your post class email.

Great Additional Information to Help You:

[Referee Pocket Guide](#)

[New Referee Information: Games, Gear and Getting Paid](#)