

The Coaching Association of Canada

Wherever there is a participant, there is a coach.

2026 Petro-Canada™ Coaching Excellence Award

The Petro-Canada Coaching Excellence Award recognizes coaches whose athletes have excelled at world championships, Olympic and Paralympic Games, and at the Special Olympics World Games.

The qualifying period for the 2026 Award Program is September 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026

Eligible Coaches: Coaches of Canadian athlete(s) or team(s) in a recognized National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) sport who win gold, silver, or bronze medals in an eligible competition.

To be considered eligible, a coach should:

- Be NCCP Competition – Development certified (NCCP Competition – Introduction certified for Special Olympics).
- Be a Canadian citizen, a Canadian resident, or a landed immigrant in possession of a Canadian work permit who contributes to the Canadian sport system.
- Have worked on a regular basis with the medal-winning athlete or team as either head, assistant, or personal coach.
- The nominee is not subject to any past, current, or pending Safe Sport sanctions, investigations, or proceedings that would affect eligibility for the PCCE Award, including those under the Canadian Safe Sport Program or any other applicable Safe Sport regulatory framework. Any changes to this information, or to other relevant information, must be disclosed promptly once they become known.

Eligible Competitions:

Open World Championships, the Olympic Games, the Special Olympics World Games, or the Paralympic Games.

- A minimum of 4 competitors must have participated in the preliminary round of competition at Open World Championships, at Olympic Games, or at Paralympic Games.
- A minimum of 6 countries must have been in the preliminary group, prior to divisioning, at Special Olympics World Games.

*Age group World Championships, (e.g. Junior World Championships or Under 23), as well as World Cups ARE NOT qualifying competitions.

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N.B. 1: The award nomination MUST be supported by the athlete or team. In some circumstances the CAC may request to contact athletes directly to clarify the role and contribution of personal and team coaches.

N.B. 2: Normally ONE coach is recognized for each medal-winning performance. If an athlete is coached equally by two coaches, the CAC Awards Committee will consider the circumstances to determine if an award should rightly be given to two coaches. In team sports, one head coach and up to two assistant coaches may equally share the award.

N.B. 3: In the event that a coach does not meet the minimum NCCP training criteria as listed above, the NSO may request that the CAC Awards Committee review and consider other coach education equivalencies. Supporting documentation for equivalencies should be submitted at the time of nomination.

Diversity and inclusion:

The Coaching Association of Canada is committed to promoting the values of diversity and inclusion and recognizes the tremendous contribution that all coaches make to the sport system in Canada and to the success of athletes on and off the field of play. The CAC welcomes nominations that reflect the diverse makeup of coaches in Canada.

Exclusions:

- Self-nominations will not be accepted
- The CAC will not consider nominations for coaches or athletes who are subject to any past, current, or pending safe sport sanctions, investigations, or proceedings.