Certification Handbook

Everything a candidate needs: levels, eligibility, exams, renewal and appeals. | 2025 edition

1. About IAARSO certification

IAARSO certifies the competence of individuals who inspect or operate amusement rides and water-park attractions. Certification is voluntary, but increasingly requested by Authorities Having Jurisdiction, insurers and operators.

2. Programmes and levels

Programme	Levels	Typical candidate
Inspector	Level I, II, III	Independent and in-house ride inspectors
Operations	Level I, II, III	Ride operators and supervisors
Aquatic Operations	Level I	Water-park attraction operators
Limited Specialty	Single	Inflatables, go-karts or other device classes

3. Eligibility

- Level I: 2 years of documented experience with amusement rides, or 1 year plus 16 hours of approved training.
- Level II: a current Level I certificate and 3 further years of experience, including 50 documented inspections.
- Level III: a current Level II certificate, 8 years of total experience and a peer reference from a Level III holder.
- All levels: a completed Eye Examination Form dated within the last 12 months.

4. The examination

Level I and II exams are multiple-choice (100 questions, 3 hours) taken in person or online with AI and live proctoring. Level III adds a practical assessment. The pass mark is 70%.

5. Renewal

Certificates are valid for two years. To renew, holders must keep active membership and earn 32 continuing-education (CEU) hours per cycle from IAARSO seminars, approved outreach programmes or approved online courses.

6. Appeals

Candidates may appeal an exam result or certification decision in writing within 30 days. Appeals are heard by members of the Certification Committee who were not involved in the original decision.

> Impartiality: IAARSO's certification scheme is designed with reference to ISO/IEC 17024. Examiners declare conflicts of interest and may not examine candidates they have trained.