

Communication No. 2441

ISU Centers of Excellence (CoEs)

Concept & Applications for the New Cycle (2022-2026)

The ISU Centers of Excellence (CoE) project has almost completed its Pilot Phase (2020 and 2021), with the involvement of 9 Centers from both Branches. Despite the lingering pandemic, thanks to the close collaboration of all the pilot Centers and ISU Members concerned, the concept of the ISU CoE has been trialled and various pilot projects have been tried and tested, including the production of CoE Guidelines.

The ISU CoE has proven to be a purposeful concept that can be implemented for the further and better development of skating sports worldwide. Based on the experiences of the past two years, the ISU has refined the CoE concept and is launching the application process for the new cycle - the Official Phase of the ISU CoE for the period 2022 to 2026.

ISU CoE Concept

An ISU CoE is an ISU-recognized skating entity that provides an overall environment of high-quality facilities, skating services, coaching and training activities, research and innovation, servicing high-performance and long-term development of Skaters, Coaches, Officials, and experts while engaging with multiple ISU Members.

An ISU CoE may act as an ISU development center, hosting or executing ISU development activities when required. An ISU CoE is prepared to share its knowledge, expertise and good practices. In addition, creativity and innovation are encouraged to fill gaps in the development of skating sports.

The ISU CoE serves as a quality label awarded periodically to selected skating entities. Together the CoEs may form a worldwide training and development network that engages Skaters, Coaches, Officials, and experts in the skating world towards a better fulfilment of their personal and collective development goals.

ISU CoE Program

An ISU CoE program will be put in place annually, composed of a series of skating development activities to be hosted or organized by recognized Centers. There can be different themes for the program depending on the development focus and specific needs of ISU Members.

CoE activities can also be initiated by recognized Centers or jointly between CoEs and ISU Members. Cooperation among Centers and with ISU Members is highly encouraged.

ISU CoE Standards and Guidelines

There are certain standards that each recognized Center is expected to meet in terms of facilities, performance, supporting services and management. The ISU CoE Guidelines present the various criteria and standards in detail. The Centers are also expected to commit a certain level of time and human resources for ISU CoE activities when required. Skating entities that are interested in becoming an ISU CoE, and ISU Members that are interested to host or support an ISU CoE, should read carefully the attached CoE Guidelines .

Application Process of the New Cycle 2022 - 2026

Applications are now open for the 2022-2026 cycle of the ISU CoE. Any existing Skating entities sharing the vision described above are encouraged to apply via the attached application form. The application must also be endorsed by the ISU Member in the country where the entity is located.

The application deadline is January 31, 2022. The application form must be completed and submitted to the ISU, together with any other supporting documents, before the deadline. All the applications will be assessed by the ISU CoE Project Group and related ISU bodies. The final result will be announced in Spring 2022.

For any questions or inquiries, please contact development@isu.ch.

Tubbergen,
Dec 3, 2021
Lausanne,

Jan Dijkema, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General