USDF L Graduate Requirements and Important Information

- To remain current as a USDF L Graduate/L Graduate with Distinction, all graduates must have a current USDF GM or PM, complete approved Continuing Education and SafeSport Training requirements. It is important that L Graduates stay current with current judging criteria to give proper comments to riders competing at the grass-roots level.
  - L Graduate Continuing Education: L Graduates are required to complete eight hours of approved continuing education per year. Graduates who meet the requirements will be listed on the [USDF website](https://usdf.org). Continuing education hours are due to the USDF office by April 1 the following year. Report forms may be sent to lprogram@usdf.org or mailed to the USDF office.
  - Safe Sport Training: According to current USEF guidelines, Safe Sport Training remains valid for one year from the date of completion. A refresher course must be completed annually thereafter. Please visit your [Member Dashboard](https://usef.org) on the USEF website for Safe Sport Training date of completion and information on the module. Questions or concerns on SafeSport may be directed to safesport@usef.org.

### Types of Approved Continuing Education

- USDF Continuing Education for Dressage Judges Program
- USEF Dressage Judge Education Programs
- USDF Sport Horse Seminar (for Judge Training)
- USEA hosted Eventing judge training programs with a focus on dressage, if taught by USEF-approved judge instructors (for dressage) or L faculty
- Convention L Education session
- Convention meetings (meetings related to Judging and Judge education)
- Auditing or participating in Part 1 of L Education Program
- Scribing with USEF R or S judges
- Scribing for instructors or examiners at L Program (Part 2) or USEF Dressage Judge Training Programs. (Testing programs are not included)
- L Education Online Course available on the USDF Education Library (2 hours)
- Review L Education Program Course material and online modules then complete this [L Program Quiz](https://usdf.org) (2 hours)

### Judging USDF Regional Schooling Shows

The USDF Regional Schooling Show Awards Program offers regional recognition to USDF Group Members competing in non-USEF-licensed/non-USDF recognized competitions.

L Graduates are permitted to judge USDF Regional Schooling Shows and must meet criteria listed below:

- Current USDF L Graduate, with or without distinction (highly recommend USDF L Graduates with distinction), which has met USDF continuing education requirements and Safe Sport training.
- **FEI classes must be judged by USDF L Graduates with Distinction.**

### Prerequisites to the USEF/USDF ‘r’ Dressage Judge Training Program

To enter the USEF/USDF ‘r’ Dressage Judge Training Program, applicants must:

- Be a current Participating Member in good standing with the USDF.
- Applicants must have graduated the L Education Program with Distinction within five years preceding an application to a Training Program. If it has been more than five years since an individual graduated the L Education Program with Distinction, the individual will need to participate or audit Part I (Sessions A, B, and C) of the L Education Program prior to taking the Final Examination.
- Earn five riding scores of 65% or higher at Fourth Level or above from four different ‘R’ or ‘S’ Judges.

Interested applicants may begin their application process through the [Licensed Officials Checklist](https://usef.org) on the USEF website. Questions may be directed to lotraining@usdf.org.