

Step-by-Step Plan to Become a Bend FC Coach

Step 1: Express Interest & Apply

- Submit interest/application to Bend FC
 - Provide coaching background, references, and experience
 - Indicate desired coaching level (Recreational, Select, Premier, Leadership)
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Step 2: Interview Process

- Participate in a formal interview
 - Discuss:
 - Coaching philosophy
 - Player development approach
 - Communication style
 - Commitment level
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Step 3: Alignment Evaluation

- Technical staff evaluates alignment with:
 - Bend FC values
 - Player-centered development
 - Positive coaching culture
 - Ethical standards
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Step 4: Conditional Employment Offer

- Receive offer pending completion of requirements
- Agree to:
 - Club policies
 - Code of conduct

- Professional expectations
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Step 5: Background & Safeguarding Clearance

- Complete OYSA background check
- Complete all SafeSport training through the **U.S. Center for SafeSport**
- Maintain current certifications

Purpose: Athlete safety and compliance

Step 6: Entry-Level Coaching Education

- Complete U.S. Soccer Grassroots Courses
- Learn fundamentals of:
 - Session planning
 - Age-appropriate coaching
 - Player safety
 - Game management

Required for all coaches

Step 7: On-Field Experience & Mentorship

- Begin supervised coaching
- Receive mentorship from senior staff
- Participate in training observations
- Lead sessions under guidance

Focus: Practical development

Coaching Pathways by Level

Pathway 1: Competitive Coach (Entry Level)

Timeline: 3–4 Weeks

1. Interview
2. Alignment evaluation
3. Employment offer
4. Background check
5. SafeSport
6. Grassroots License
7. Begin coaching

Outcome: Eligible to coach Competitive teams

Pathway 2: Select Coach

Timeline: 12–16 Weeks

1. Complete Competitive steps
2. Gain field experience
3. Enroll in D License
4. Complete D License

Outcome: Eligible for Select-level teams

Pathway 3: Premier Coach

Timeline: 24–30 Weeks

1. Complete Select pathway
2. Enroll in C License
3. Begin advanced tactical education

Outcome: Eligible for Premier teams

Pathway 4: Premier Platform League Coach (U16)

Timeline: 96–104 Weeks

1. Complete Premier pathway
2. Six-month waiting period
3. Enroll in C License
4. Complete C License

Outcome: Eligible for national/regional platform leagues (U16)

Pathway 5: Premier Platform League Coach (Over 16)

Timeline: 200–220 Weeks

1. Complete U16 pathway
2. One-year waiting period
3. Apply for B License
4. Acceptance (limited spots)
5. Complete 6–9 month course
6. Pass B License

Outcome: Eligible for high-level youth and elite competition

Pathway 6: Director of Coaching / Technical Leadership

Timeline: 400–440 Weeks

1. Complete B License
2. One-year waiting period
3. Apply for A License or Technical Leader Course
4. Complete advanced leadership training
5. Pass final certification

Outcome: Eligible for DOC, Technical Director, or Club Leadership roles

Ongoing Professional Requirements (All Levels)

All Bend FC coaches must continuously maintain:

- ✓ SafeSport Certification
 - ✓ Background Screening
 - ✓ License Currency
 - ✓ Annual Evaluations
 - ✓ Continuing Education
 - ✓ Club Professional Development Attendance
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Additional Considerations

When evaluating candidates, Bend FC also considers:

1. **Coaching Experience**
 - Prior playing/coaching background
 - Youth development experience
 2. **Connection to the Club**
 - Family involvement
 - Long-term commitment
 3. **Course Selection Process**
 - Many licenses require applications
 - Acceptance is competitive
 4. **Assistant Coach Standards**
 - Must meet minimum licensing and safeguarding criteria
 - Additional internal training may apply
 5. **Team Manager Standards**
 - Separate qualifications and compliance requirements
 - Must meet organizational expectations
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Summary: The Bend FC Coaching Journey

Phase 1: Entry & Safety

- ✓ Application
- ✓ Interview
- ✓ Background Check
- ✓ SafeSport
- ✓ Grassroots License

Phase 2: Development

- ✓ D License
- ✓ C License
- ✓ Mentorship
- ✓ Field Experience

Phase 3: Advancement

- ✓ B License
- ✓ A License / Leadership Track
- ✓ Long-Term Professional Growth

Phase 4: Leadership

- ✓ Strategic Planning
- ✓ Club Culture Leadership
- ✓ Program Development