



ICF Background Information

Founded in 1995, the International Coach Federation (ICF) is the leading global organization dedicated to advancing the coaching profession by setting high standards, providing independent certification, and building a worldwide network of credentialed coaches. For more information on how to become or find an ICF Credentialed coach, please visit our Web site at Coachfederation.org.

International Coach Federation Core Purpose

The ICF's **core purpose** is to advance the art, science and practice of professional coaching.

ICF Core Values

Integrity: We uphold the highest standards both for the coaching profession and our organization

Excellence: We set and demonstrate standards of excellence for professional coach quality, qualification, and competence.

Collaboration: We value the social connection and community building that occurs through collaborative partnership and co-created achievement.

Respect: We are inclusive and value the diversity and richness of our global stakeholders. We put people first, without compromising standards, policies and quality.

Definition of Coaching

The ICF defines coaching as partnering with clients in a thought-provoking and creative process that inspires them to maximize their personal and professional potential. Coaching is a distinct service and differs greatly from therapy, consulting, mentoring or training. Individuals who engage in a coaching relationship can expect to experience fresh perspectives on personal challenges and opportunities, enhanced thinking and decision-making skills, enhanced interpersonal effectiveness, and increased confidence in carrying out their chosen work and life roles.

ICF Membership

ICF has more than 14,700 members in over 95 countries and more than 140 chapters in over 50 countries.

ICF Credentialing

Currently, over 6,500 coaches hold an ICF Credential. Earning an ICF Credential requires that the applicant has undergone extensive coach-specific training, has gained experience by serving clients, and is able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the ICF Core Competencies and Code of Ethics through a rigorous examination process.