



AGS Certified Judge Application

Thank you for showing interest in completing the program to become an American Gourd Society (AGS) judge through these standardized procedures and requirements.

Becoming Certified

Step one: To become an AGS Certified Judge is to ensure you are a current member of the American Gourd Society. Please ensure that your membership is up to date to begin this process.

Step two: Download and read the 1) AGS Judging Handbook, 2) Student Handbook, and 3) Judging Categories Guidelines **PRIOR** to attending this class. You can get all of these from the website, <http://www.americangourdsociety.org/judging.html>

Step three: Attend one of the many qualified events held in many different states. You start as an Apprentice Judge, complete another event and then become a Certified Judge. As you complete at the completion of this class, will receive credentials, and will have your name added to the AGS website list of Apprentice and Certified Judges qualified to judge AGS-sanctioned gourd competitions. You will have two (2) years to complete the additional requirement of judging or clerking at an AGS sanctioned competition. The person instructing you at that course is required to complete the 2018 AGS Judge Training Session form and mail it in. **There is no charge for the instruction itself.** This seminar will familiarize you with the AGS Judging Guidelines, provide hands-on judging, and provide guidance in using AGS standardized criteria. Bring a note paper & pen, a flexible ruler and a small flashlight to class as well as your reading assignment.

Step four: Complete this form. If you are becoming initially certified, send in the check for \$20 for your personalized official Apprentice Judge and then Certified Judge nametag and postage. Please note that this is the actual cost of the name badge and engraving.

Updating Your Certification

If you are an Apprentice Judge and have satisfied the requirements for becoming a Certified Judge, check the appropriate box and send in the \$20 for your Certified Judge name tag.

If you are a Certified Judge and have satisfied the requirements for becoming a Certified Judge Instructor, check the appropriate box and send in the \$20 for your new Judge Instructor name tag.

If you have changed your name or lost your name tag, please send in the check made payable to the AGS for \$20 to replace your judge name tag.

Sponsor Contact person: _____

PLEASE PRINT NEATLY!

Name (as it should appear on your nametag):
Address
Email:
Phone:

Required:

I am a current member of the American Gourd Society

Check applicable:

I have satisfied the requirements to become an Apprentice Judge

I have satisfied the requirements to become a Certified Judge

I have satisfied the requirements to become a Certified Judge Instructor

I have enclosed a check made payable to the AGS for \$20 for my personalized judge name tag

I agree that my contact information may be made available to potential competition planners (optional)

Individuals should follow the instructions below to mail application and check to receive their name tags, or instructors for judging certification courses can collect individual applications and checks for their class

Send this application and check to:

**AGS Judge Certification
Attn: Diane Frankenfield
9097 Deer Hill Road
Belews Creek, NC 27009-9712**