



**Promoting sound and ethical banding principles and techniques.**

**North American Banding Council  
Trainer Certification Application for Exceptional Candidates**

This process is intended to accommodate exceptionally experienced banders who cannot otherwise participate in the formal evaluation process. Candidates are self-nominated and should submit their application and the fee of \$70 to the chair of the relevant taxon-specific sub-committee. Upon receipt of the application, the chair will arrange for the candidate to take the NABC written exam. The subcommittee will review the application including any relevant exceptions to the criteria, and may ask for outside opinions as required. Negative assessments will be submitted to the entire Council for review and a final determination.

Candidates must score 90% on the NABC written exam, and provide the following documentation:

1. Cover letter explaining justification and rationale for waiving a formal field certification.
2. Banding CV that includes the following:
  - a. Banding positions held
  - b. Training experience: number of people trained both as a primary and a secondary trainer, number of trainees certified by NABC, courses or workshops taught, etc.
  - c. Publications
  - d. Presentations
  - e. Approximate number of birds and species banded (required for passerines, shorebirds, raptors, and hummingbirds only)
  - f. Approximate number of banding-hours (required for waterfowl only)
3. Three letters of recommendation, including one letter from a banding mentor and one from a banding mentee. At least one letter must come from an NABC certified trainer. Letters should address the applicant's banding experience, bander training abilities, and ethical standards with regards to bird banding. Letters should be sent directly to the relevant sub-committee chair.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the scientific value of banding by providing proof the applicant has contributed banding data to at least three (3) scientific projects. Such proof may take the form of peer-reviewed publications; technical reports; scientific or technical presentations; contributions to network databases (e.g. MAPS, MOSI, CMMN, LaMNA); and/or active research, conservation, or management practices.
5. Signed statement (1) indicating that the NABC study guide and training manuals (and relevant bird group manuals) have been read in full and (2) stating the applicant's commitment to teach using the principles and techniques therein.
6. Participate in an interview conducted by two NABC Trainers (one of which must be from the appropriate taxon) to assess the individual's background and knowledge of NABC policies and practices.

Please visit [www.nabanding.net](http://www.nabanding.net) for information about the North American Banding Council and its programs.