

Essential Training for **Pool Operators**

Your team is your first line of defense in maintaining a safe facility. Ensuring that staff are not only Certified Pool Operators (CPOs) but also engaged in ongoing education is crucial. Encourage participation in advanced training programs to build a knowledgeable and proactive team. Here are the most common and easily accessible training sessions for your team.

1. Certified Pool & Spa Operator (CPO®)

- Overview: The CPO® certification is the foundational program for pool and spa operators, providing essential knowledge on pool operations, water chemistry, and safety.
- Ideal For: New and experienced pool operators.
- Format: In-person or virtual instructor-led courses.
- Key Topics:
 - Water chemistry and balancing.
 - Pool circulation and filtration systems.
 - Safety and risk management.
 - Regulatory compliance.
- Certification: Requires passing a standardized exam.

More information on Vivo's [Certified Pool & Spa Operator Certification](#)

2. Certified Pool & Spa Maintenance Specialist (CMS®)

- Overview: The CMS® program is designed for individuals new to the pool industry or those focusing on routine maintenance tasks.
- Ideal For: Entry-level maintenance personnel and pool service route workers.
- Format: On-demand, self-paced online course or instructor-led sessions.
- Key Topics:
 - Safety and health protocols.
 - Pool circulation and filtration.
 - Water quality and chemistry.
 - Electrical components and heaters.
 - Customer service and legal considerations.
- Certification: Completion of the course and passing the CMS® exam.

More Information on [Certified Pool & Spa Specialist](#)

3. Certified Pool & Spa Service Technician (CST®)

- Overview: The CST® certification is for experienced service technicians aiming to deepen their technical knowledge and troubleshooting skills.
- Ideal For: Technicians with at least 2 years of industry experience.
- Format: On-demand online course or instructor-led sessions.
- Key Topics:
 - Advanced water quality management.
 - Circulation, filtration, and hydraulics.
 - Electrical systems and pump motors.

- Heaters and optional equipment.
- Control systems and maintenance practices.
- Certification: Completion of the course and passing the CST® exam.

More information on [Certified Pool & Spa Service Technician](#)

4. Certified Pool & Spa Inspector (CPI®)

- Overview: The CPI® program equips professionals with the knowledge to conduct thorough pool and spa inspections, ensuring safety and compliance.
- Ideal For: Health officials, environmental health specialists, and experienced pool operators.
- Format: On-demand online course or instructor-led sessions.
- Key Topics:
 - Inspection procedures and code compliance.
 - Circulation system evaluation.
 - VGB Act compliance.
 - Recreational water illnesses.
 - Recordkeeping and operational best practices.
- Certification: Completion of the course and passing the CPI® exam.

More Information on [Certified Pool & Spa Inspector](#)

5. Certified Service Professional (CSP®)

- Overview: The CSP® certification is the pinnacle for service professionals, demonstrating a high level of expertise and commitment to the industry.
- Ideal For: Individuals with at least 5 years of industry experience and current CST® certification.
- Format: Instructor-led sessions and exam.
- Key Topics:
 - Advanced water quality and treatment.
 - Complex electrical and mechanical systems.
 - Business management and customer relations.
 - Regulatory compliance and safety standards.
- Certification: Passing the CSP® exam.

More Information on [Certified Service Professional](#)

6. Aquatic Facility Operator (AFO) Certification

- Offered By: National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)
- Overview: The AFO certification provides comprehensive training for pool operators, focusing on water chemistry, disinfection, mechanical systems, operations, and safety.
- Ideal For: Pool owners, operators, and management staff.
- Format: In-person or virtual instructor-led courses.
- Key Topics:
 - Water chemistry and disinfection.
 - Mechanical systems and operations.
 - Health and safety protocols.

- Facility operations and maintenance.

- Certification: Requires passing a standardized exam.

More Information on [Aquatic Facility Operator Certification](#)

7. Orenda Academy: Commercial Pool Care Course

- Offered By: Orenda Technologies
- Overview: This course focuses on proactive pool care, emphasizing water chemistry management, equipment operations, and daily maintenance tasks.
- Ideal For: Pool service professionals seeking to enhance their knowledge of best practices in commercial pool care.
- Format: Online, self-paced course.
- Key Topics:
 - Basics of pool maintenance and chemistry.
 - Use of the Orenda app and Startup Method.
 - Introduction to Orenda products.
- Certification: Certificate awarded upon course completion.

More Information on [Orenda Commercial Pool Care Course](#)

8. Pool Chemistry Training Institute (PCTI) Certification

- Offered By: HASA
- Overview: The PCTI certification is a one-day course focusing on pool chemistry, water balance, and maintenance practices.
- Ideal For: Pool service professionals aiming to improve their understanding of pool chemistry.
- Format: In-person course.
- Key Topics:
 - Water chemistry and balance.
 - Pool construction materials.
 - Pool math and calculations.
- Certification: Certificate of Achievement and a certification patch valid for 3 years.

Information on [HASA Pool Chemistry Training Institute Certification](#)

9. Aquatic Venue Public Health Inspector Course

- Offered By: Council for the Model Aquatic Health Code (CMAHC)
- Overview: This course provides health inspectors and pool operators with tools and resources to ensure aquatic venues are maintained and operated safely, minimizing health hazards.
- Ideal For: Health inspectors and individuals responsible for inspecting public and semi-public pools or aquatic venues.
- Format: Approximately 8-hour course.
- Certification: Valid for 5 years.

More Information on [CMAHC Inspector Course](#)