

COACH – EDUCATION

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Background

In the 1990's individuals and organizations showed a steadily growing interest for the "New Coaching" (Non-Sport or Non-directive Coaching). Already at the time of the millenium shift Coaching was in some countries the most "sought for" area, especially in Business.

This made some consults continue under the new and popular name but without any formal education and without changing the content and form of their work and activity

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The increasing interest for Coaching stimulated research and education. While research has developed in a slow but steady speed the number of educational oppurtunies have taken an explosive like speed with new courses offered almost every week. This made it difficult for future coaches to evaluate these courses and for potential customers to evaluate the education that a coach had. (More about how to evaluate an education in the article: "What to think of when choosing an education")

International Education

As the strong development (and the problems mentioned above) has been similar in many countries one solution has been to look for education organized by international organizations.

The two biggest organizations are ICF – International Coaching Federation, founded in the middle of the 90's, and ICC – International Coaching Community, founded 2003.

ICF is both a member and a professional organization (no education is needed for membership), while membership in ICC only is given to ICC certified coaches. Both organizations are today (2007) of the same size (around 2000 certified coaches in all parts of the world) and even if form and contents vary there are big similarities between the organizations in relation to ethics, standards and quality.

Education to Coach specialist

Efter 4 years of education to "Certified International Coach" ICC started 2007 advanced coaching courses divided into 4 levels.

The "traditional" education to "Certified International Coach" is called "Level 1"

Level 2 consists of three specialist courses – Business Coach, Team Coach and Life Coach

Only those who are certified in all three level 2 - professions have access to level 3.

The total education, inclusive the highest level (Certified International Master Coach) comprise 400 "contact hours" and two years of practice (Practicum).