

FIDE Solving Trainer: Title and Award Criteria

At its online meeting on 1 November 2025, the WFCC approved the introduction of a title for outstanding trainers of new generations of chess solvers and composers, together with the qualification criteria, while leaving the title's name for later decision.

<https://www.wfcc.ch/wfcc-online-meeting-011125/>

In December 2025, following discussions between WFCC representatives and senior FIDE officials in Doha, FIDE supported the use of its name in the new title and suggested the designation **Trainer**, in line with its existing trainer titles.

<https://www.wfcc.ch/happy-new-chess-composition-year-2026/>

Subsequent discussions within the Youth Committee showed stronger support for the name **FIDE Solving Trainer** than for the name **FIDE Composing Trainer**. After consultation with members of the Qualifications Committee, I therefore propose introducing the following title:

FIDE Solving Trainer

The proposed criteria are intentionally demanding, preventing both title inflation and retroactive applications. This has already been reflected in practice, with only one application received by 30 July 2026.

Award Criteria

An applicant must have trained at least **two qualified students**.

Only results achieved from **2025 onwards** shall be taken into account. A student must not have reached the age of 24 during the calendar year in which the qualifying result was achieved.

A **qualified student** is one who has achieved **any two** of the following:

1. A rating performance of **2200 or higher** in an official WFCC solving tournament (WCSC, ECSC, WCCC Open or ECSC Open).
2. A **Top 50** finish in the final standings of the World Solving Cup.
3. A medal in the FIDE & WFCC World Cadet/Youth Solving Championships.

The applicant must also:

- hold an international solving title (GM, IM or FM); and
- submit a short essay describing their experience as a solving trainer. The essay should include:
 - o the names of the students;
 - o the venue(s) and approximate training period;
 - o the names of any previous solving trainers, where applicable; and
 - o four to six chess diagrams illustrating instructive training examples.

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