

PSIA-I Guide to the Level 3 Certification Process

Candidates will be assessed to the professional knowledge, skiing and teaching performance standards for Level 3 as described in The PSIA National Alpine Certification Standards. These standards should be reviewed! They can be found on the “Alpine Certification” page at www.psia-i.org.

Certified Level 3 instructors must be able to ski all green and blue terrain and black terrain (double black where available) in most conditions.

Alpine Certified Level 3 instructors are expected to teach adults and children through the Advanced Zone. According to the PSIA Alpine Technical Manual, “Skiers in this zone range from those who can handle the easiest groomed black runs to experts who can apply a variety of turn shapes to control speed on any type of terrain, in any snow condition.”

Certification Prerequisites

- PSIA Level 2 Certification
- Review the PSIA National Alpine Certification Standards for Level 3
- Successfully complete the Level 3 online test
- Consult the “Event Calendar” found at www.psia-i.org
- Attend a minimum of one designated assessment prep clinic
- Successfully complete a Skiing Assessment for Level 3
- Successfully complete a Teaching Assessment for Level 3

Overview

The Level 3 Assessment involves 3 parts:

- An on-line written test
- A skiing assessment
- A teaching assessment

You must take and pass each portion.

There is no requirement to take the ski or teach assessment prior to the other.

The candidates may take either Individual Day Assessments or the Coached Assessments to meet the requirements.

The skiing and teaching assessments take place separately. The online test must be passed prior to attending the on-snow events.

Online Test – This must be passed with a score of 80% in order to attain your certification. Please see the “Alpine Certification” page on the website or call the division office for details.

General Exam Scoring

The scoring range and criteria is the same as L1 and L2. You will receive a 1 – 6 score on each component in the score sheet. See the score-sheet for the details of what each number represents. A minimum score of 4 is required to meet the standard of any scored element. Score sheets are found on the “Alpine Certification” page of the Intermountain web site.

PSIA-I Level III Assessment Descriptions

There are two different types of assessments offered for the PSIA-I Level III certification process. The traditional Individual Day format and the Coached 2-Day format. These assessment types may be taken in any combination, there is no requirement to take all the Individual or Coached format.

The purpose of offering two different types of assessments is to give greater flexibility and opportunity for member seeking level II and level III certification.

Individual Day Skiing Assessment

Daily Schedule - Times are approximate! Weather, etc. may change these. Please come with a flexible mindset.

- 8:30am Check-in, meet and greet. Announce groups.
- 9:00am Preview the day and start the on-snow ski assessment
- 3:00pm On-snow assessment complete
- 5:00pm Results delivered individually to candidates (Maximum 10 minutes each)

Coached 2-Day Skiing Assessment

The purpose of the Coached 2-Day Assessments is to help participants with additional clarity of task and performance based coaching. This is not a skills acquisition clinic.

Day 1

9:00-9:30am	Warm-up
9:30am-12:30pm	Highlighted Tasks with Coaching(Scored)
12:30-1:15pm	Lunch
1:15-3:15pm	Blended Task with Coaching(Scored)

Day 2

9:00-9:30am	Warm-up
9:30am-12:30pm	Applied Tasks with Coaching(Scored)
12:30-1:15pm	Lunch
1:15-3:15pm	Repeat or additional tasks from the matrices used for coaching and scoring

No maximum number for tasks

On-snow Process

You will ski a total of 10 tasks. All possible tasks for the Level 3 Skiing Assessment can be found in a documents called the “Alpine Task Matrix” found on the “Alpine Certification” page of the Intermountain web site.

Skiing Scoring

You will be scored in two categories: Highlighted Fundamentals and Application of Fundamentals. Each category is used to assess your level of competence with the Skiing Fundamentals as written in The PSIA National Alpine Certification Standards for Level 3. Score sheets are found on the “Alpine Certification” page of the Intermountain web site.

- Highlighted Fundamentals: you will perform 5 tasks. You must score a 4 or better in four tasks and a 3 or better in the fifth task to meet the standard.
- In the Application of Fundamentals category there are 3 sub-categories: Basic Blending, Applied Skiing and Versatility. You will perform 5 tasks. You must score a 4 or better in four tasks and a 3 or better in the fifth task to meet the standard.
 - Basic Blended: Two tasks will be performed in this category.
 - Applied Skiing: Three tasks will be performed in the category.
 - Versatility: there are four scored elements. Your performance in the five Application of Fundamentals tasks will be used to derive the scores in this category. You must score a 4 or better in three categories and a 3 or better in the fourth to meet the minimum performance standard.

The Individual Day Teaching Assessment

Daily Schedule Times are approximate! Weather, etc. may change these. Please come with a flexible mindset.

9:00am-11:00am	Warm-up & Peer MA Sessions: Using Ski Tasks (Basic Parallel & Dynamic Shorts Radius)
11:00am-12:15pm	2 Teaching Segments, using peer MA
12:15pm-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm-3:15pm	4 Teaching Segments, using peer MA
3:15pm-4:15pm	Group Leaders Complete Scoresheets
4:15pm	Results Delivered

*20 minute teaching segments with 5 minute debrief(2 segments per hour with lift rides)

**MA of one candidate is delivered verbally to examiners after they watch that peer ski tasks

***Candidates will teach their MA fundamental to two of their peers

Coached 2-Day Teaching Assessment

The purpose of the Coached 2-Day Assessments is to help participants with additional clarity of task and performance based coaching. This is not a skills acquisition clinic.

Day 1		
9:00am-9:30am Warm-up 9:30am-12:30pm Peer MA Sessions with Coaching(Dynamic Medium Radius & Free ski off trail) 2 Teaching Segments with Coaching 12:30pm-1:15pm 1:15pm-3:30pm 4 Teaching Segments with Coaching *MA Coaching: Candidate watches peer with group leaders, coaching can be anytime during this segment. **Teach Coaching: 5 minutes with group leaders to layout the teaching plan. Teach 10 minutes (no coaching) then 5 minutes coaching session about delivered teaching.	Non-Scored Activities	
Day 2		
9:00am-11:00am Warm-up & Peer MA Sessions: Using Ski Tasks (Basic Parallel & Dynamic Shorts Radius) 11:00am-12:15pm 2 Teaching Segments, using peer MA 12:15pm-1:00pm Lunch 1:00pm-3:15pm 4 Teaching Segments, using peer MA 3:15pm-4:15pm Group Leaders Complete Scoresheets *20 minute teaching segments with 5 minute debrief (2 segments per hour with lift rides). **MA delivered verbally to examiners after they watch a peer ski tasks. ***Candidates will teach their MA fundamental to their peers	Scored Activities	

On-snow Teaching Process

Each candidate will teach lesson. Two of your peers will be your students. The focus of this lesson will be based on movement analysis of your students. The content, delivery and feedback should be directed at your students.

The goal is to impact the understanding, performance or learning of your students.

At the completion of the teaching segment the examiners will briefly ask any questions necessary to clarify elements of the teaching segment.

Teaching Scoring: The components scored are listed on the score-sheet. The same scale is used as for skiing. You are allowed one score of 3 for each category on the score sheet and score a 4 in the remaining components. The Teaching Assessment Score Sheet can be found on the “Alpine Certification” page of the Intermountain web site.

PSIA-I Coached 2-Day Assessment Process

These are the assessments available in the coached format:

- Level II Teach Assessment
- Level II Ski Assessment

- Level III Teach Assessment
- Level III Ski Assessment

Maximum of 6 participants

Education clinic prerequisites are still required

Participants will attend all both days

Group leaders will remain the same for both days

PSIA-I Individual Day Assessments

The assessments available in the individual day format:

- Level II Teach Assessment
- Level II Ski Assessment
- Level III Teach Assessment
- Level III Ski Assessment

Maximum of 6 participants

Participants are allowed to take either the ski or teach assessments first

There will be 2 group leaders for each of these assessments