PSIA-AASI-I
Guide to the Alpine Level 2 Certification Process

Updated 10-21-2021

Certification Standards
Candidates will be assessed on technical, teaching and people skills standards for Level 2 as described in the PSIA-AASI National Alpine Certification Standards 2021. These standards should be reviewed! They can be found on this webpage.

Certified Level 2 instructors must be able to ski all green and blue terrain (including bumps and other un-groomed conditions) and groomed, moderate black terrain.

Alpine Certified Level 2 instructors are expected to teach adults and children through the Intermediate Zone. According the PSIA-AASI Alpine Technical Manual, "Skiers in this zone can perform consistent parallel turns on beginner and easy intermediate terrain."

Certification Prerequisites
- PSIA Level 1 Certification
- Review and understand the PSIA National Alpine Certification Standards for Level 2
- Successfully complete the Level 2 online test
- Consult the "Event Calendar" found at www.psia-i.org
- Attain a minimum 6 hours of designated assessment prep clinics
  - No additional clinics are required after not meeting standards at an assessment
- Successfully complete a PSIA-I Level 2 Skiing assessment
- Successfully complete a PSIA-I Level 2 Technical & Movement Analysis assessment
- Successfully complete a PSIA-I Level 2 Teaching assessment

Overview
The Level 2 Assessment involves four parts:
- Online test
- Skiing assessment
- Teaching assessment
- Technical & Movement Analysis assessment

You must take and pass each portion.
The online test must be passed prior to registering and attending the on-snow assessments.
The skiing, teaching or technical & movement analysis assessments may be taken in any order.

The skiing, teaching, and technical & movement analysis assessments take place separately on-snow.

Online Test – This must be passed with a score of 80% prior to attending the on-snow assessments. This may be taken [online here].

General Exam Scoring

The scoring range and criteria is the same as L1 and L3. You will receive a 1 – 6 score for each criteria of the score sheet. A average score of 4 in all scored criteria is required to meet the standard. Assessment forms are [found here].

1: Essential Elements were not observed
2: Essential elements are beginning to appear
3: Essential elements appear but not with consistency
4: Essential elements appear regularly at a satisfactory level
5: Essential elements appear frequently above required level
6: Essential elements appear continuously at a superior level

Ski Assessment (1-Day On-Snow)

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

- 8:30am   Arrive at the designated indoor meeting location to check-in
- 8:45am   Group assignments and prepare to go on-snow
- 9:00am   Preview the day and start the on-snow ski assessment
    - Applied tasks are performed first to determine the highlighted tasks
    - Tasks may be varied or performed multiple times based on the needs of the group and examiner discretion. Generally, candidates will not perform a task or variation more than three different times.
- 3:00pm   On-snow assessment complete
    - Results will be delivered by email. Group leaders will be present to briefly review the results or answer questions. Group leaders may also be contacted later for discussion. Resort space availability and policy may alter this procedure.

- Maximum of 8 candidates for 2 examiner format.
- Maximum of 12 candidates for 3 examiner format.
- Any breaks will be determined by group needs in accordance with resort policies.

Group sizes of 4-8 candidates will have 2 examiners and the group will perform all tasks and stay together the entire day. Applied tasks will be performed followed by 1-3 highlighted tasks

Groups sizes of 9-12 will have 3 examiners and with the groups split. The following format will be used.

AM Schedule		Group Leaders
Group 1: 6 Candidates		Examiner A
Basic Parallel	Short Turns	
Wedge Turns or Christies	1 Highlighted TBD	

Group 2: 6 Candidates		Examiner B
Basic Parallel	Moguls	Examiner C
Free Ski Parallel	1 Highlighted TBD	

PM Schedule		
Group 2: 6 Candidates		Examiner A
Basic Parallel	Short Turns	
Wedge Turns or Christies	1 Highlighted TBD	

Group 1: 6 Candidates		Examiner B
Basic Parallel	Moguls	Examiner C
Free Ski Parallel	1 Highlighted TBD	

Ski Assessment Format Details

On-snow Process
Candidates will ski the basic and advanced applied tasks prior to the highlighted tasks. Tasks may be varied or performed multiple times based on the needs of the group and examiner discretion. All possible tasks for the Level 2 Skiing Assessment can be found in the documents called the PSIA-I Activity Guides found here.

Ski Scoring
Candidates will be scored on application of skiing fundamentals as they relate to the assessment criteria (AC) and learning outcomes (LO). Each category is used to assess your level of competence as written in the PSIA-AASI 2021 National Alpine Certification Standards for Level 2. Professional Behavior and Self Awareness will be scored throughout the day. Assessment forms are found here.

Teach Assessment (1-Day On-Snow)

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

- 8:30am   Arrive at the designated indoor meeting location to check-in
- 8:45am   Group assignments and prepare to go on-snow
- 9:00am   Preview the day and start the on-snow teach assessment
- 9:15am   Teaching segments
    - Candidates will be assigned one of the Level 2 Teaching Topics. They will teach two of their peers based on this topic for up to 25 minutes. Any other candidates will not actively be involved but may observe. There will be a five-minute interview of the teaching candidate after the teaching segment.
- 3:00pm   On-snow assessment complete
    - Results will be delivered by email. Group leaders will be present to briefly review the results or answer questions. Group leaders may also be contacted later for discussion. Resort space availability and policy may alter this procedure.

Level 2 Teaching Topics
1. Consistent speed during a series of turns
2. Pole use to aid turn transition
3. Adjust speed as terrain changes
4. Matching inside ski earlier in the turn
5. How to ski more challenging terrain and/or snow conditions
6. How to make skiing off-trail smoother
7. How to make smaller turns
8. Speed control with less effort
9. How to maintain grip through a series of turns
10. How to enter a turn smoothly

Leve 2 Teaching Segment Follow-up Questions
- What was your desired learning outcome?
- How you plan and/or adapt your learning experiences to achieve the desired outcome?
- How did you help the students reflect upon the learning experiences?
- Was there a change in understanding or performance of your students?

- Maximum of 6 candidates
- Any breaks will be determined by group needs in accordance with resort policies.

Teach Scoring

Candidates will be scored on the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria in the PSIA 2021 National Standards for Level 2 Teaching and People Skills during their teaching segment. Professional Behavior and Self Awareness will be scored throughout the day. Assessment forms are [found here](#).

Technical & Movement Analysis Day (1-Day On-Snow)

Members that passed the PSIA-I L2 Teach Assessment between 2018 and 2021 will not be required to take the Technical and Movement Analysis Assessment.

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

- 8:30am   Arrive at the designated indoor meeting location to check-in
- 8:45am   Group assignments and prepare to go on-snow
- 9:00am   Preview the day and start the on-snow technical & movement analysis assessment
  - Segment 1   General public skier movement analysis
    - A candidate will watch an assigned skier with the examiners and present technical movement analysis based on the observed skiing performance. Clarifying questions will be asked as needed. This will be performed on green to blue terrain. Then the process is repeated with each candidate.
  - Segment 2   Peer movement analysis interview
    - Group skiing while performing examiner's choice of L2 ski tasks and variations based on conditions or need. This can be done via line rotation or call down format. This will be done using one to two runs, depending on number of candidates and terrain, traffic, and hill size considerations.
    - The goal is to give everyone a chance to perform, observe, and analyze the tasks and their purpose.
    - Candidates will be asked questions by the Examiners before, during, and after watching an assigned peer perform a variation of an assigned Task.

During the interview candidates will be asked to the following:

- Describe the ski and body performance, relative to two or more alpine fundamentals in all turn phases, and from turn to turn.
- Link ski and body performance when describing cause-and-effect relationships in at least two fundamentals in all phases of the turn and from turn to turn.
- Evaluate the described performances and compare to more ideal performance.
- Prescribe a specific change in one alpine fundamental using DIRT to create a change in desired outcome.
- Relate how equipment choice affects skiing outcomes.

Clarifying questions to be asked as needed

- 3:00pm   On-snow assessment complete
    - Results will be delivered by email. Group leaders will be present to briefly review the results or answer questions. Group leaders may also be contacted later for discussion. Resort space availability and policy may alter this procedure.

Technical and Movement Analysis Scoring: Candidates will be scored on the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria in the PSIA 2021 National Standards for Level 2 Technical Understanding and Movement Analysis Skills during these assessment segments. Professional Behavior and Self Awareness will be scored throughout the day. Assessment forms are found here.

Maximum of 6 candidates
Any breaks will be determined by group needs in accordance with resort policies.