



## **PSIA-AASI-I Guide to the Alpine Level 3 Certification Process**

**Updated 12-10-2021**

### **Certification Standards**

Candidates will be assessed on professional knowledge, skiing and teaching performance standards for Level 3 as described in the PSIA-AASI National Alpine Certification Standards. These standards should be reviewed! They can be found on [this page](#).

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 and understand 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](http://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 3 Skiing assessment
- Successfully complete a PSIA-I Level 3 Teaching assessment
- Successfully complete a PSIA-I Level 3 Technical & Movement Analysis assessment

### **Overview**

The Level 3 Assessment involves four parts:

- On-line test
- Skiing assessment
- Teaching assessment
- Technical & Movement Analysis

You must take and pass each portion.

The online test must be passed prior to registering and attending the on-snow assessments.

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

The skiing and teaching 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 L2. You will receive a 1 – 6 score on each criteria of the score sheet. An average score of 4 in all criteria is required to meet the standard. Score sheets are found on the “Alpine Certification” page of the Intermountain web site.

- 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.
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- 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 Radius Dynamic |               |
| 1 Highlighted TBD     | Moguls               |               |
|                       |                      |               |
| Group 2: 6 Candidates |                      | Examiner B    |
| Basic Parallel        | Med/Long Dynamic     | Examiner C    |
| 1 Highlighted TBD     | Dynamic Free Ski     |               |
|                       |                      |               |
| PM Schedule           |                      |               |
| Group 2: 6 Candidates |                      | Examiner A    |
| Basic Parallel        | Short Radius Dynamic |               |
| 1 Highlighted TBD     | Moguls               |               |
|                       |                      |               |
| Group 1: 6 Candidates |                      | Examiner B    |
| Basic Parallel        | Med/Long Dynamic     | Examiner C    |
| 1 Highlighted TBD     | Dynamic Free Ski     |               |

### **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 3 Skiing Assessment can be found in the documents called the PSIA-I Alpine 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 3. 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 Peer Skiing Observation Segment
  - Each candidate will be assigned 2 of their peers to observe ski. The candidates will observe their skier perform two different assigned tasks during 1-3 runs. One task will be on-trail and one task will off-trail when possible. The task will be from the task matrices. Tasks may be varied based on conditions, group need, or examiner discretion.
- Peer Teaching Segment
  - Candidates will teach their assigned peer using information from the Peer Skiing Observation Segment. Brief clarifying questions may be asked by group leaders.
  - *Teaching segments will be up to 25 minutes with 5 minutes for clarifying questions after the 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.

## Teaching Scoring

Candidates will be scored on the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria in the PSIA 2021 National Standards for Level 3 Teaching and People Skills during their teaching segment. 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.

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

*Members that passed the PSIA-I L3 Teach Assessment between 2016 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

### **Peer Movement Analysis & Observation**

Observation Task 1: Candidates will be assigned a skier to observe while performing examiner's choice of skiing task with possible variations based on conditions or need. This task will come from the [PSIA-I Activity Guides](#). This can be done via line rotation, call down or another format. This will be done using one to two runs, depending on number of candidates, terrain, traffic, and hill size considerations.

Observation Task 2: Candidates will observe their assigned skier performing an assigned task. This will be in a call down format with MA delivered to the group leaders. Group leaders may ask clarifying or follow-up questions.

### **Peer Performance Comparison**

Each candidate will be assigned specific terrain and two of their peers to work with. The candidate will determine a task with a specific performance focus. They will demonstrate the task for their peers. They will describe their personal performance of the task in relationship to the ideal to the group leaders. They will watch their peers individually perform the task. Then they will describe the performance of each skier in relation to the set task and focus. Group leaders may ask clarifying or follow-up questions.

- 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 3 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