PSIA-I
Guide to the Level 3 Certification Process

Updates as of 10-15-2020

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 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 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
• **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 Skiing Assessment for Level 3
• Successfully complete a Teaching Assessment for Level 3

Overview
The Level 3 Assessment involves 3 parts:

• On-line test
• Skiing assessment
• Teaching assessment

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.
Online Test – This must be passed with a score of 80% prior to attending the on-snow assessments. 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. 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.

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)

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

- 8:45am Arrive at the designated on-snow location for your group ready to ski
- 9:00am Preview the day and start the on-snow ski assessment
  - Applied tasks are performed first to determine the highlighted tasks
- 3:00pm On-snow assessment complete
  - Results delivered by email the same day
Level 3 Ski Assessment Individual Day Format

8 or fewer candidates requires only 2 examiners together
12 Maximum Candidates requires 3 examiners
Applied Task are performed first to determine highlighted task

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<td>Basic Parallel</td>
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Ski Assessment Format Details

On-snow Process
You will ski 6-8 tasks. All possible tasks for the Level 3 Skiing Assessment can be found in the documents called the “Alpine Task Matrix” found on the “Alpine Certification” page of the Intermountain web site.

Skiing Scoring
You will be scored on the fundamentals of skiing and the application of skiing fundamentals. Each category is used to assess your level of competence 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 must score a 4 or better in four categories and a 3 or better in the fifth to meet the standard.

- In the Application of Fundamentals category there are 3 sub-categories: Basic Applied, Advanced Applied and Versatility tasks. 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 Applied: Two tasks will be performed in this category.
  - Advanced Applied: 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 Teaching 3 Assessment

Day 1:

- **Check-in 8:45AM:** Arrive at the designated on-snow location for your group ready to ski
- **Introduction:** Introductions and review of the Level 3 teach assessment process. Discussion about the Level 3 PSIA National Certification Standards.

- **Peer Movement Analysis:** Candidates will be assigned a skier to observe in one assigned task. This will be in a call down format with MA delivered verbally to the group leaders. A brief individual discussion and feedback from group leaders.

- **Technical Teaching Topics:** Candidates will teach, one or two of their peers, a technical element to help them perform or teach one of the assigned topics. This will be followed by brief feedback or discussion of the teaching segment with the group leaders.
  - *The technical teaching topics segments are 5 minutes with 5 minutes of discussion.*

Day 2:

- **Check-in 8:45AM:** Arrive at the designated on-snow location ready to ski
- **Peer Analysis & Observation:** Each candidate will be assigned someone to observe. The candidates will observe their skier perform assigned tasks during 1-3 runs. One task will be from the on-trail and one task from the off-trail list.

- **Peer Teaching:** Candidates will teach one peer using information from the analysis and observation segment. Brief clarifying questions may be asked by group leaders.
  - *Teaching segments are 10-20 minutes with 5 minutes for clarifying questions. The time allocated will be based on group needs and dynamics of the day.*

- All segments will be used for scoring
- Maximum of 6 candidates
- Attendance both days is required
- Any breaks will be determined by group needs in accordance with resort policies.
- Results delivered by email the same day
Teach Assessment Format Details

Teaching Scoring: The components scored are listed on the scoresheet. 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.
Teach 3 Assessment Tasks and Topics

Peer Movement Analysis: Candidates will be assigned a skier to observe. They will watch them perform one assigned task. This takes place in a call down format. The MA is delivered verbally to the group leaders and followed by a brief individual discussion and feedback from group leaders.

Peer MA: On-trail Task List

- Dynamic Short Radius
- Basic Parallel Short Radius
- Basic Parallel Medium Radius
- Dynamic Medium Radius
- Dynamic Medium to Short Radius

Peer MA: Off-trail Task List

- Fall-line Moguls
- Basic Parallel Short Radius
- Basic Parallel Medium Radius
- Dynamic Medium Radius
- Dynamic Medium to Short Radius
- Short Turns in a Long Turn

* Task will be chosen based on the conditions of the day

*Tasks may be varied at the discretion of the group leaders to help accomplish the MA objective

Assigned Technical Teaching Topics

Technical Teaching Topics: Candidates will teach, one or two of their peers, a technical element to help them perform or teach one of the assigned topics. This is followed by brief feedback or discussion of the teaching segment with the group leaders.

- The technical teaching topics segments are 5 minutes with 5 minutes of discussion.

1. Fall-line moguls – Advanced terrain with moguls
2. Skiing steeps – Advanced un-groomed terrain
3. Dynamic short radius turns – Intermediate to advanced groomed terrain
4. Dynamic medium radius turns – Intermediate to advanced groomed terrain
5. Basic parallel short radius – Advanced un-groomed terrain
6. Off-trail skiing – Advanced un-groomed terrain