

17.5 Alpine Certified Program

17.5.1 National Standard

- A. Certified is a national education and skill verification program that provides a readily identifiable resource of highly motivated, skilled and knowledgeable Patrollers to better serve the NSP, ski area management, and the outdoor recreation community.
- B. The Certified program as presented in the NSP Policies and Procedures manual and The Ski Patroller's Manual, 14th edition, specifies the accepted national Certified standards of this program. Additional education content may be added to the manual as needed to support the initial objective.
- C. Each Patroller who successfully completes the Certified program will be assigned a unique Certified number. This number will be printed on the member's registration card.

17.5.2 Application Requirements

- A. An applicant must be an NSP member who has advanced beyond the Candidates level.
- B. A recommendation signature is required from a supervisor (NSP Patrol Representative, area manager, etc.).
- C. An applicant must meet all Division requirements (e.g., dates, fees).
- D. It is recommended that Senior status be achieved before entering the Certified program.

17.5.3 Program Requirements

- A. In order to achieve Certified Status, an applicant must complete each of the following modules within three consecutive ski seasons, starting with the application season.
 - 1. Area Operations and Risk Management
 - 2. Avalanche Management
 - 3. Emergency Management
 - 4. Rope Rescue and Lift Evacuation Management
 - 5. Skiing (free heel, fixed heel, snowboard)
 - 6. Toboggan Handling (free heel, fixed heel, snowboard)
- B. The evaluation system for the Certified program will be consistent with other NSP programs.

17.5.4 Recertification

- A. To maintain member level, Certified Patrollers are required to successfully demonstrate ski and toboggan-handling skills in Division-authorized events once every three years.
- B. If a Certified Patroller is not able to meet the performance standards at a recertification event, he or she will be given a grace period of one ski season to bring the skills up to standard.

17.5.5 Reciprocity

- A. Division Certified advisors, with concurrence of their Division Director, may approve, as appropriate, partial or full reciprocity for individuals in their Division.
- B. Division granting reciprocity must continually review this policy to ensure that NSP Certified objectives are being met.