

CANADIAN MOUNTAIN AND SKI GUIDE PROGRAM

Winter Hiking Course - Application Package

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For additional information about this or any other CMSG course contact the office at 250-371-5838 or cmsg@tru.ca

Digital Registration forms can be found at: <http://www.tru.ca/act/adventure/cmsg-certprg/apply/apppackages.html>. There is an Adobe Acrobat version and Microsoft Word (2010) version. The completed form should be e-mailed to cmsg@tru.ca.

1. Winter Hiking Course

This course will familiarize participants with risk management and client care in the context of winter hiking and camping.

The type of travel will depend on course location and conditions; participants should be prepared to use snowshoes (no cross-country skis). Although there is no field assessment participants will be required to pass a written exam.

Successful participants are “accredited” by the ACMG to lead hiking groups in winter conditions in class 1 or simple terrain (ATES) when the danger rating is low to considerable and in non-avalanche terrain when the danger is rated high to extreme.

The Assistant Hiking Guide certificate is a pre-requisite and participants must provide evidence of minimum winter hiking experience: 5 winter hikes and two nights winter camping.

2. Notice of Increased Risk

The CMSG Program provides training intended to develop professional skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel guides. To train professional guides it is necessary for students to participate in activities that have higher levels of risk than what may be considered reasonable by entry-level, intermediate, novice, commercial guiding, or recreational standards. This may include, but is not limited to activities such as: lead climbing where the climber places his or her own protective equipment, climbing without helmets, travel and decision making in avalanche terrain, climbing and rescue in a multi-pitch environment, students driving program vehicles, hiking in unusually rough and remote terrain, stress from examination and grading processes, students making route and hazard assessment decisions on behalf of other students, unsupervised activities; and continuing with an activity when it may not be considered reasonable by entry-level, intermediate, novice, commercial guiding, or recreational standards (for example, when fatigued, in inclement weather, or in high hazard conditions).

Waiver and Release of Liability

AT THE START OF EACH COURSE or EXAM YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN A LEGAL RELEASE DOCUMENT (Waiver). YOU CAN VIEW A COPY ON-LINE. WE RECOMMEND YOU SEEK LEGAL ADVICE IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.

3. Application Information – Winter Hiking Course

Prerequisites required before you can apply

- You must be 19 years of age (unless you reside in Alberta, 18 years).
- Have a current advanced (80 hr.) first aid certificate.
- Have attended an Avalanche Skills Training (AST) Level One course.

To apply you must submit

- Registration form
- Copy of advanced first aid certificate. (If you will be taking your first aid course after the application deadline, attach confirmation of registration from the course provider with your application.)
- Proof of attendance at an Avalanche Safety Training (AST) Level One course.
- Resume of winter hiking and camping experience. (See attached resume format).
- References who are familiar with your winter hiking experience.
- Related experience and additional information you feel is pertinent.

Concerning Applications

Allow yourself adequate time to create a well-structured, organized, and complete application that arrives on time. Your application plays a significant role in whether you will be accepted into the course. Poorly organized applications or unformatted resumes jeopardize your acceptance as your background, skills and qualifications may not be clear and/or may compare unfavourably to other applications. Please retain a copy of your application for your records or in case of loss.

Application Deadline

Applications must be complete and received by the CMSG Program office by the application closing date. Late or incomplete applications may not be accepted.

Application deadlines, course dates and fees can be viewed online at www.cmsg.info or contact the Program Office at (250) 371-5838. Dates and fees are updated regularly and may change without notice. **Applications must be delivered via e-mail. They should be saved in a .pdf package and e-mailed to cmsg@tru.ca. They should only be faxed or mailed if you don't have any other options.**

Notification of Acceptance

Applicants will be notified of acceptance into the course, once accepted and registration has been completed, payment will be due in full. Please see payment details below.

If accepted and it becomes clear to the instructors that you are not at the standard indicted on your application, instructors have the right to remove you from further participation in the course.

4. Winter Hiking and Camping Resume Format

An experience resume can be set up in a spreadsheet format to conveniently list the types and styles of hikes. This presents relevant information in a concise format for the review committee. Please include nights winter camping. Feel free to include relevant experience that is beyond what is asked for if it will demonstrate greater depth of experience. You may include cross-country skiing, alpine ski touring and snowshoeing.

5 winter hikes and 2 nights camping

<i>Name of route/hike</i>	<i>area /range</i>	<i>month/year</i>	<i>comments</i>
1.			
2.			
3.			
Etc.			

5. Payment and Cancellation Policy

The course fee is due once you are formally accepted and registered into the course and must be paid in full.

The following policies are strictly enforced.

1. The CMSG office must receive cancellation 4 weeks before the course start. Cancellation by email is fine.
2. There are no refunds of any kind if you cancel after the 4 week deadline.
3. The no refund policy includes personal injury, illness, medical reasons, family emergency etc.
4. Students remain responsible for all unpaid course fees after the cancellation deadline.
5. If the CMSG Program cancels the course, all fee payments will be returned in full.