

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Canadian Mountain and Ski Guide Program

Guide Training Rock

Application Package

(please specify course dates and location on your application form)

Package Contents:

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Mail completed application form to:

Canadian Mountain & Ski Guide Programs
Thompson Rivers University
PO Box 3010
Kamloops, BC
V2C 5N3

Ph 250-372-0118

Fax 250-371-5845

Email: acmg@tru.ca

1. Rock Guide Program

Rock guides specialize in climbing instruction and guiding on technical rock. This includes long, multi-pitch routes; sport climbs; and top rope climbs on terrain where no glaciation and no permanent or seasonal snow or ice exists.

GOALS: One goal of the Guide Training Rock is to teach the technical rope work systems and techniques used by ACMG Rock Guides. A second goal is to screen candidates' movement skills and knowledge of recreational level climbing systems. A third goal is to provide direction toward the Assistant Rock Guide Exam and other ACMG certifications.

On the Guide Training Rock Program a candidate will be required to show that: The candidate's personal "flash" climbing standard is at a minimum of 5.10d, and their minimum "red-point" climbing standard is at 5.11a or better, **either** when placing gear on traditionally protected leads **or** while climbing bolt protected "sport" climbs. The candidate is current with modern climbing trends and familiar with the language and pedagogy of training for rock climbing. Candidates are expected to arrive with a strong recreational climbing background with an acquired knowledge of knots, belaying, anchors, protection strategies and climbing systems. It is assumed that the candidates can lead the climbs listed on the submitted resume. Candidates are expected to be physically prepared for a week of outdoor activity.

Guide Training Rock is a pre-requisite to the Assistant Rock Guide Exam. You may wait one year after completing Guide Training Rock before you are required to take the Assistant Rock Guide Exam.

If you have already completed Guide Training Rock and are applying to the Assistant Rock Guide Exam, complete the Assistant Rock Guide application package (click on Assistant Rock Guide on the ACMG web site or call the CMSG Program office for the ARG application package.

Note Concerning Applications: Keep in mind that your application is a first impression. As such it plays a significant role in whether you will be accepted into the program or not. Poorly organized applications or unformatted resumes jeopardize your chances of acceptance because your background, skills and qualifications may not be clear and/or may compare unfavorably to other applications. It is strongly recommended that you allow yourself adequate time to create a well structured, organized, and complete application that arrives on time. This will greatly enhance your chances of being accepted if you qualify. If accepted and it becomes clear in the field that you are not at the standard indicated on your application, instructors have the right to remove you from further participation in the course.

2. Notice To Participants Of Professional Guide Training Courses - Increased Risk

TRU and the ACMG provide 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).

AT THE START OF EACH COURSE or EXAM YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN A LEGAL RELEASE DOCUMENT (Waiver) A COPY OF THIS CAN BE VIEWED IN THIS APPLICATION PACKAGE. WE RECOMMEND YOU SEEK LEGAL ADVICE IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.

3. Application Information – Guide Training Rock

Prerequisites required before you can apply:

- ❑ You must be 19 years of age or older
- ❑ Have a current Advanced (80 hr) First Aid and CPR certificate (Wilderness First Aid is preferred, however OFA 3 will be accepted).

To apply you must submit:

- ❑ Registration form (attached)
- ❑ Copy of your current Advanced First Aid and CPR certificate. (if you will be taking your first aid course after the application deadline, attach a confirmation of registration for the first aid program you are taking – this must be complete, and confirmation received by our office (copy of certificate or letter from the first aid provider) in advance of the program date.
- ❑ Medical (required if this is your first application to the CMSG program). If you have submitted a medical for a previous CMSG program i.e. the ski or hiking program, no medical is required.
- ❑ Personal resume which includes:
 - Educational background
 - Related work experience
 - Goals for becoming a guide
 - Other information you feel is pertinent
- ❑ Climbing Skills resume showing you have the minimum leading experience (see attached page for skills resume format)
 - 15 short routes (1 – 3 pitches) requiring protection placement. Minimum 5.10c
 - 15 sport climbs (fixed pro) flashed in the past year. Minimum 5.10d
 - Significant redpoints in the past year which indicate your top climbing standard
 - 15 moderate length routes (full day, multi pitch)
 - 2 or more longer routes (very long/multi day)
 - Any routes which require direct aid
 - A total of 3 or more years of experience, preferably in a variety of areas on different rock types
- ❑ References who are familiar with your personal and technical background.
- ❑ Letters of recommendation or support. See guidelines and format on attached page.

Once you have all the above, please submit your application **together** with a \$500 deposit.

Applications submitted without a deposit will be returned.

Applications must be complete and received by the programs office no later than the application deadline date (see web site for application deadline). Late or Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

4. Sample Format for Climbing Skills Resume

A personal skills resume can be set up in a spreadsheet format to more conveniently list the types and styles of climbs. This will present relevant information in a concise format.

15 Short Trad Climbs (min. 5.10c)

Route	Difficulty	Location/Area	Belayer	Date	Style (if applicable)
<i>Name of route</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>area or crag</i>	<i>Partner name</i>	<i>month/year</i>	<i>flash/redpoint</i>
1.					
2.					
3tc.					

15 Sport Climbs (min. 5.10d)

Route	Difficulty	Location/Area	Belayer	Date	Style (if applicable)
<i>Name of route</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>area or crag</i>	<i>partner name</i>	<i>month/year</i>	<i>flash/redpoint</i>
1.					
2.					
etc.					

Significant Redpoints in the past year

Route	Difficulty	Location/Area	Belayer	Date
<i>Name of route</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>area or crag</i>	<i>partner name</i>	<i>month/year</i>
1.				
2.				
etc.				

15 Moderate Length Routes (Full Day, Multi Pitch)

Route	Difficulty	Location/Area	Belayer	Date
<i>Name of route</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>partner</i>	<i>month/year</i>
1.				
2.				
etc.				

2 or more longer routes (very long / multi day)

Route	Difficulty	Location/Area	Belayer	Date
<i>Name of route</i>	<i>difficulty</i>	<i>area/crag</i>	<i>partner</i>	<i>month/year</i>
1.				
2.				

Any Routes Requiring Direct Aid

Route	Difficulty	Location/ Area	Belayer	Date
<i>Name of route</i>	<i>difficulty</i>	<i>area/crag</i>	<i>partner</i>	<i>month/year</i>
1.				
etc..				

5. Medical Form

CV Dis (ischaemic, arrythmia):			
Neurological Dis (epilepsy):			
Respiratory Dis (asthma, pneumonia):			
Metabolic Dis (diabetes):			
Psychiatric Dis:			
Addictions (alcohol, drugs):			
Sensory (visual, hearing, vertigo):			
Other significant Dis:			
Medications:			

To the examining physician: Mountain guiding involves leading clients in roped climbing and otherwise hazardous terrain in summer and winter. The profession demands the highest level of physical and mental fitness. Failure of the guide's health in the mountain environment would seriously jeopardize the lives of the guide and clients.

Please provide details of any Yes answers and how they might impair professional performance.

Physical Examination	Normal	Abnormal	Comments (attach sheet if necessary)
CV System:			
Musc-Skeletal System:			
Nervous System:			
Respiratory System:			
Psychiatric Evaluation:			
GI System			
GI System:			
Auditory Acuity:			
Visual Acuity (with correction):			
Blood Pressure – Systolic:			Diastolic:
Urinalysis-Protein:			Glucose:

Please provide details of any abnormalities and how they might affect professional performance.

Health Evaluation:

Is the aspirant fit to guide? YES ____ NO ____ (If in doubt arrange the appropriate consultation, including results).

Name of aspirant (Please print): _____

Examining physician (Please print): _____

Physician signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone number: _____

6. Guidelines for Letters of Recommendation

The letter can be submitted with the application or mailed directly to the:
Canadian Mountain and Ski Guide Program
Thompson Rivers University
Box 3010, 900 McGill Road
Kamloops B.C. V2C 5N3

Or we accept recommendations emailed from the writer and sent to: acmg@tru.ca

A. Please include the following in your letter:

- a. Your name, contact information, occupation, and position
- b. The applicant's name
- c. The length of time you have known the applicant

B. If you are an employer or supervisor please describe:

- a. Your impression of the applicant's work experience (work ethic, daily tasks and contribution)
- b. Your impression of the applicant's involvement in work place decisions (observer, active participant, team leader, team supervisor)
- c. Your impression of the applicant's potential as a leader and company representative

C. If you are an ACMG Guide - based on your personal experience of the applicant:

- a. What is your relationship to the applicant (friend, mentor, supervisor)?
- b. What is your impression of the applicant's general mountain skills (fitness, preparedness, technical skills, navigation, risk management, ski skills)?
- c. What is your impression of the applicant's leadership and decision-making skills?
- d. What is your impression of the applicant's potential as a ski guide?

D. Additional comments are welcome.

E. Please sign and date your letter.

7. Payment and Cancellation Policy

Payment deadline is 45 days (6 weeks) in advance of your course

Course Fees:

Fees include administration, instruction, assessment, and special travel (e.g. helicopter, snowcat, lifts, etc.) while on the course. Accommodation, meals, and/or food allowances may be provided on some courses; please read logistical information carefully when you are accepted. Candidates may be required to cook meals, especially in the field or in huts and must provide their own transportation to, from, and during the course. Candidates are responsible for all their own equipment and meals, unless indicated otherwise, for each program.

Payment:

The following policies will be strictly enforced.

Your application and the required deposit as indicated on the "Dates and Fees" information are due on or before the closing date.

Balance of payment is due 45 days before the course starts. Your application will become void if full payment is not received on time and you will not receive a course logistics package as we will withdraw you from the program. Be advised that some courses have a

wait list. **If payments are not received on time, the next person on the wait list will be called to fill your spot.**

Payment can be made by cash, cheque, money order, or one of the following credit cards: Visa, MasterCard or American Express. Do not send cash in the mail. Make cheques and money order payable to Thompson Rivers University.

Once accepted, you will be provided with a student number and four options in which to pay course balance, including paying on-line.

Please note: if payments are late, your place on the course may be forfeited.

Cancellation and Refunds:

The following policies will be strictly enforced.

If notice of cancellation is received by the TRU more than 45 days prior to the course start date, all monies paid will be refunded. **There will be no refunds of any kind if notice of cancellation is received less than 45 days before the course starts.**

Notice of cancellation must be made in writing to the Canadian Mountain and Ski Guide Program at Thompson Rivers University.

If the CMSG Program cancels a course or exam, all fees will be refunded in full.

It is strongly recommended that you purchase trip cancellation insurance in case you become ill or injured and are unable to attend the course. Please call for advice if you are having difficulty finding insurance coverage.

Notification of Acceptance:

Applications and payments are held until the closing date at which time applications are reviewed. Successful applicants will be notified of acceptance within four weeks after the closing date.

Dates and Fees:

Applications and the accompanying deposit should be sent to the following address. Course dates and fees are updated regularly and may change without notice. For current information contact:

Canadian Mountain and Ski Guide Program

Thompson Rivers University

P.O. Box 3010

Kamloops, B.C. V2C 5N3

www.acmg.ca

Phone: (250) 372-0118 or (250) 828-5221 or (250) 371-5838

fax: (250)371-5845

email: acmg@tru.ca

8. Sample Waiver

Thompson Rivers University

Adventure Studies Department

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS,
ASSUMPTION OF RISKS, INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, AND
JURISDICTION AGREEMENT**
BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT YOU WILL WAIVE CERTAIN
LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE.
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

Initial

Please Print

Name:
Address:

TO: THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY
(hereinafter referred to as "TRU")

AND TO: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
(hereinafter referred to as "THE PROVINCE")

AND TO: THE ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN MOUNTAIN GUIDES
(hereinafter referred to as "ACMG")

DEFINITIONS:

In this agreement:

- a) the term "SKIING" shall apply to "helicopter skiing," "snowcat skiing," "backcountry skiing," "snowmobile assisted skiing," "alpine skiing," "telemark skiing," "snowboarding" "cross country skiing," and "ski touring,"
- b) the term "CLIMBING" shall refer to "alpine climbing," "rock climbing," "ice climbing," "caving," "mixed climbing," and "mountaineering,"
- c) the term "HIKING" shall refer to "day hiking," "backpacking," and "snowshoeing."
- d) the term "RESCUE" shall refer to "rope rescue," "rock rescue," "cave rescue," "mountain rescue," "helicopter rescue," and "avalanche rescue,"
- e) the term "WILDERNESS TRAVEL" shall refer to all forms of land, air, and water based travel and shall include all activities, services and use of facilities either provided by or arranged by TRU or the ACMG or in any way related to skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel activities including, but not limited to: orientation and instruction sessions, transportation, accommodation, and recreational activities in addition to skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel;
- f) the term "TRANSPORTATION" shall refer to all forms of transportation off road and on public roads, private roads, and logging roads, including TRU owned vehicles, leased vehicles, ferries, airplanes, student owned vehicles, snowmobile, snowcat and helicopter either provided by or arranged by TRU or the ACMG or in any way related to skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel activities including, but not limited to: loading, unloading and travel in or movement around vehicles, snowmobiles, snowcats and helicopters.
- g) the term "INJURY" shall refer to all forms of physical, mental, and emotional injury in any way related to skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation activities including, but not limited to: death, breaks, strains, lacerations, dislocations, amputations, frostbite, hypothermia, trauma, anxiety, phobias, and fears.

**ASSUMPTION OF RISKS – AVALANCHES, ALPINE TERRAIN, SKI TERRAIN, CLIMBING TERRAIN,
WILDERNESS TRAVEL, WEATHER, ETC.**

Initial

I am aware that skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation involves risks, dangers and hazards in addition to those normally associated with travel in land, and air based wilderness environments. Avalanches occur frequently in the alpine terrain used for skiing and climbing and may be caused by but not limited to natural forces or by climbers or skiers. Rock fall, ice fall, climber falls, and skier falls occur frequently in the alpine terrain used for climbing and skiing and may be caused by but not limited to natural forces or by climbers or skiers. Bear or other wildlife attacks, rough or irregular terrain, and hiker falls are frequent hazards in the wilderness terrain used for hiking and may be caused by natural forces or hikers. Vehicle rollovers, overloaded roof racks, pulling trailers, inexperienced drivers, and hazardous driving conditions may occur in the type of transportation used for skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel and may be caused by but not limited to natural forces or people.

I acknowledge and accept that TRU or the ACMG and their staff may fail to predict whether the terrain used is safe for skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation or whether an accident may occur. The terrain used for skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel is uncontrolled, unmarked, not inspected and involves many risks, dangers and hazards. These may include, but are not limited to: attacks by bears and other

animals, ice and snow cornices, trees, falling trees, tree wells, tree stumps, creeks, rocks, boulders, forest deadfall, holes and depressions on or below the snow surface, steep slopes, cliffs, ice fall and rock fall, variable and difficult snow conditions, crevasses, snowcat roads and road banks, fences and other man-made structures, impact or collision with other skiers or climbers; hail, lightening, inclement weather, failure to predict weather, vehicle rollovers, overloaded roof racks, pulling trailers, unsafe driving, unsafe road conditions; the failure to ski or climb safely within one's own ability or within designated areas; human error, failure to forecast or recognize a hazardous situation, negligence of other skiers, climbers, hikers, or rescuers; and NEGLIGENCE ON THE PART OF OTHER STUDENTS, TRU, ACMG OR THEIR GUIDES, EMPLOYEES, AND CONTRACTORS INCLUDING THE FAILURE OF TRU OR ACMG OR THEIR GUIDES, EMPLOYEES, AND CONTRACTORS TO SAFEGUARD OR PROTECT ME FROM THE RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS OF WILDERNESS SKIING, CLIMBING, HIKING, RESCUE, WILDERNESS TRAVEL, AND TRANSPORTATION. Communication in the terrain used is difficult and in the event of an accident, rescue and medical treatment may not be available. Weather conditions may be extreme and can change rapidly and without warning, making travel by any means hazardous.

I AM AWARE OF THE RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH SKIING, CLIMBING, HIKING, RESCUE, WILDERNESS TRAVEL, AND TRANSPORTATION AND I FREELY ACCEPT AND FULLY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS AND THE POSSIBILITY OF PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR LOSS RESULTING THERE FROM.

Initial

NOTICE TO SNOWBOARDERS AND TELEMAR SKIERS – INCREASED RISK

Unlike alpine ski boot and binding systems, snowboard and some telemark boot and binding systems are not designed or intended to release and will not release under normal circumstances. The use of such systems or the use of a safety strap or retention device by snowboarders or telemark skiers will increase the risk of not surviving an avalanche.

NOTICE TO PARTICIPANTS OF PROFESSIONAL GUIDE TRAINING COURSES – INCREASED RISK

TRU and the ACMG provide 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).

Initial

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

In consideration of TRU, the ACMG, and THE PROVINCE allowing me to participate in skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is acknowledged, I hereby agree as follows:

- 1. TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL CLAIMS** that I have or may have in the future against **TRU, the ACMG, and THE PROVINCE** and their directors, officers, employees, instructors, guides, agents, independent contractors, representatives, successors and assigns (all of whom are hereinafter referred to as the "RELEASEES") and **TO RELEASE THE RELEASEES** from any and all liability for any loss, damage, expense or injury including death that I may suffer or that my next of kin may suffer as a result of my participation in skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation activity, **DUE TO ANY CAUSE WHATSOEVER, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE, BREACH OF CONTRACT, OR BREACH OF ANY STATUTORY OR OTHER DUTY OF CARE, INCLUDING ANY DUTY OF CARE OWED UNDER THE OCCUPIER'S LIABILITY ACT, R.S.B.C. 1996, c.337, ON THE PART OF THE RELEASEES, AND INCLUDING THE FAILURE ON THE PART OF THE RELEASEES TO SAFEGUARD OR PROTECT ME FROM THE RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS OF SKIING, CLIMBING, HIKING, RESCUE, WILDERNESS TRAVEL, AND TRANSPORTATION REFERRED TO ABOVE.**

Initial

- 2. TO HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY THE RELEASEES** from any and all liability for any property damage or personal injury to any third party resulting from my participation in skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation;

3. TO HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY THE RELEASEES from any and all liability for any costs they may incur for medical costs, search and rescue, evacuation, and litigation resulting from my participation in skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation;
4. That this Agreement shall be effective and binding upon my heirs, next of kin, executors, administrators, assigns and representatives, in the event of my death or incapacity;
5. This Agreement and any rights, duties and obligations as between the parties to this Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted solely in accordance with the laws of the Province of British Columbia and no other jurisdiction, and
6. Any litigation involving the parties to this Agreement shall be brought solely within the Province of British Columbia and shall be within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of the Province of British Columbia.

Initial

In entering into this Agreement I am not relying on any oral or written representations or statements made by the Releasees with respect to the safety of skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation other than what is set forth in this Agreement.

I CONFIRM THAT I AM THE FULL AGE OF NINETEEN (19) YEARS AND I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THIS AGREEMENT PRIOR TO SIGNING IT, AND I AM AWARE THAT BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT I AM WAIVING CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS WHICH I OR MY HEIRS, NEXT OF KIN, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, ASSIGNS AND REPRESENTATIVES MAY HAVE AGAINST THE RELEASEES.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Signature of applicant
Print name clearly

Signature of witness
Print name clearly

THIS AGREEMENT MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL, INITIALED WHERE INDICATED, DATED, SIGNED AND WITNESSED PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING WITH TRU AND THE ACMG.
01/09/2008

9. Registration Form - Guide Training Rock

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Year/month/day
 Address: _____

City: _____
Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
Cell: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____

Emergency Contact: _____
Relationship (i.e. father, mother, wife etc.): _____
Address: _____

City: _____
Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
Cell: _____ Email: _____

Names and dates of all courses or exams for this application:

Course: _____
Course: _____

Payment: Credit Card _____ Exp. _____

Name on Credit Card _____

Payment: Cheque/Money order attached

List any special dietary requirements (i.e., vegetarian, food allergies, etc.)

List any medical conditions (i.e. allergies, contact lenses, prescription drugs, etc.)

Application checklist. If documentation is missing, your application can be rejected unless a reasonable explanation is attached.

Course Deposit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Personal Resume, cover letter, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Letters of recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Climbing Skills Resume	<input type="checkbox"/>
First aid certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical form	<input type="checkbox"/>
CPR certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you reviewed the waiver?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registration form (this form)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

I acknowledge having read the application package including the attached Cancellation Policy and Waiver and I agree to the terms and conditions described, and certify all information in my application is true and correct.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____