

ACMG Snowshoe/Winter Hiking Accreditation Criteria 2009

The ACMG Snowshoe/Winter Hiking Accreditation is not a course offered by Thompson Rivers University. It is an accreditation that is given by the ACMG to qualified individuals who have passed a course in the Hiking Program and who wish to extend their guiding season to include winter operations.

Application Process

- a. Be a member in good standing of the ACMG with a Day Hiking, Assistant Hiking or Hiking Guide certification
- b. Provide a resume that outlines a minimum of five different winter hiking\snowshoe trips in mountainous terrain
- c. Write an essay describing the differences in guiding application, winter hazards and risk management between snowshoeing and summer hiking
- d. Provide two letters of recommendation from active Ski, Alpine or Mountain Guides, who can verify the applicant's skills level.
- e. Provide a photocopy of proof of completion of CAA AST level one course or have taken an ACMG avalanche terrain recognition CPD course (to be developed).

Scope of practice

- a. All trips must be in terrain with minimal or no avalanche hazard (the equivalent of ATES class 1). At times of high or extreme avalanche risk, trips should have NO avalanche exposure.
- b. When operating in land jurisdictions with no formal terrain classification, ATES terrain ratings for each trip location must be obtained from a Ski or Mountain Guide familiar with the terrain in question as well as the ATES scale. Each guide is expected to provide the terrain assessor with an operational map showing trails and areas being used for the activity.
- c. The maximum length of any trip is 1 day – no overnights.