



Association of Canadian Mountain Guides

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Activity and Terrain Limitations for ACMG Certifications

This document is a highly abbreviated version of the ACMG Scope of Practice that is tailored for members of the public. It outlines the appropriate terrain and activities that are permitted for ACMG members in relation to their certification levels. Use it to determine what kind of member you may need for your trip/activity or to understand the terrain limitations or supervision requirements of someone you may hire or receive instruction from. ACMG Members should refer to the complete Scope of Practice that is found in the Governance section of the member website. Interested members of the public may also see the entire Scope of Practice which is available on the About the ACMG > Governance page of the website.

Mountain Guides

There are no specific terrain or activity restrictions for Mountain Guides, except as imposed by personal or experiential limitations. Some guiding activities require a combination of skills that can only be acquired through familiarity with both skiing and climbing. For example: multi-day ski mountaineering trips to remote, highly glaciated regions such as Mt Columbia should be undertaken by a guide who is fully qualified in both skiing and climbing.

Alpine Guides and Apprentice Alpine Guides

All climbing and mountaineering activities are appropriate; travel on skis is permitted only for climbing objectives where no downhill skiing technique is required. The work of Apprentice Alpine Guides is subject to supervision, as described in the *Supervision* document.

Ski Guides and Apprentice Ski Guides

All mechanized and non-mechanized skiing and snowboarding activities are appropriate, including travel on winter condition glaciated terrain. Also permitted are ascents of non-technical peaks as part of a ski tour, where short-roping techniques (use of a shortened rope to prevent a slip) may be used in simple terrain. The work of Apprentice Ski Guides is subject to supervision, as described in the *Supervision* document.

Rock Guide and Apprentice Rock Guides

All technical rock climbing is appropriate, where no glaciation or permanent snow is present. Short-roping techniques (use of a shortened rope to prevent a slip) may be used for short periods on simple terrain. The work of Apprentice Rock Guides is subject to supervision, as described in the *Supervision* document.

Hiking Guides, Assistant Hiking Guides, Day Hiking Guides

All hiking activities, on and off trail, above and below treeline are appropriate, except where terrain or conditions require the use of hands for balance to prevent a fall of consequence, or the use of mountaineering equipment to safeguard clientele, or where seasonal avalanche hazard exists. Day Hiking Guides are restricted to single day trips. Assistant Hiking and Hiking Guides may lead multi-day trips. With additional training, guides in this category may lead winter trips, including snowshoeing, hiking and cross country skiing where no avalanche hazard exists and no downhill skiing technique is required. The work of Assistant Hiking Guides is subject to supervision, as described in the *Supervision* document.

Top Rope Climbing Instructors

Technical rock climbing instruction or experiential rappelling on single pitch outdoor rock is appropriate, where students always have a top rope for safety. The work of Top Rope Climbing Instructors is subject to supervision, as described in the Supervision document. These instructors typically work for institutions or other employers rather than independently.

Climbing Gym Instructors

Technical climbing instruction on climbing walls is appropriate. These instructors typically work for institutions or other employers rather than independently.