



ACMG

Association of Canadian Mountain Guides
Association canadienne des guides de montagne

Policies

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Related Policies:

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Policy:

1. Background

1.1 Apprentice guides have not yet completed their certification.

1.2 In order to ensure the currency of their training, the ACMG requires all apprentice members in the mountain stream to complete their certification within a designated period of time.

1.3 There is no requirement to complete the mountain guide certification – members may remain as certified specialty guides (rock, alpine, ski).

2. Timeline

2.1 Apprentice members must challenge the specialty guide exam within 3 years of passing the apprentice exam in each respective discipline. Example: A person who passes the apprentice ski guide exam in the spring of 2015 must challenge the ski guide exam before the end of the spring of 2018.

2.2 Apprentice rock guides may choose to challenge either the rock guide exam or the apprentice alpine guide exam.

2.3 Apprentices who choose to challenge an exam in a different discipline are not relieved of their requirement to challenge the certificate exam in their original discipline within the required time period.

2.4 Apprentice members who have not challenged the exam within the required time period will lose their membership status as an apprentice in that discipline. It is possible to lose one's membership status in one discipline while retaining membership status in another.

2.5 Apprentices who are unsuccessful on their specialty guide exam may wait up to three years before challenging that exam again

2.6 Candidates may challenge any exam, retest or skills screening a maximum of three times.

2.7 Apprentice alpine guides who fail the alpine guide exam three times may choose to challenge the rock guide exam. They have one opportunity to do so and it must occur within one year of failing the alpine guide exam for the third time, during which time the member may not work as an apprentice alpine guide.

2.8 Apprentice rock guides who fail the rock guide exam three times must begin the rock guide training process again before they can begin the alpine discipline.

2.9 If an apprentice fails an exam, retest or skills screening for the third time, the ACMG will conduct an automatic review to ensure that no significant procedural errors, bias or other unusual circumstances contributed to the continued failure. Candidates will have the opportunity to present their case should they so desire.

2.10. If the result of the review warrants it, the apprentice may be granted one more attempt to pass the relevant exam, test or screening the following year.

2.11. If the review demonstrates no error, bias or other unusual circumstance, the apprentice immediately loses his/her membership status in that discipline.

2.12. Apprentices who lose membership status may only regain that status after having applied for, and been granted, reinstatement. This may include the need to pass the apprentice exam again.

2.13 In certain situations, the Director of the Training and Assessment Program, in consultation with the Technical Director, may permit the apprentice to take an upgrade course at his/her own expense and challenge the relevant specialty guide exam.

3. Minimum Prerequisites

3.1 Apprentice members must meet minimum prerequisites set by the ACMG before challenging the next exam or training course in a given stream.

3.2 It is possible to challenge exams in separate disciplines back to back, but care should be taken to ensure there has been sufficient time working as an apprentice to meet the prerequisites and adequately prepare for the exam.

4. Extensions

4.1 In the event of a mitigating circumstance such as pregnancy or a personal emergency that prevents an apprentice member from challenging the specialty guide exam, application for an extension may be made to the ACMG Technical Committee).

4.2 At the determination of the Technical Committee, members receiving an extension may be required to take an upgrade course with a current instructor at his/her own expense.

4.3 Members requesting a second contiguous extension must agree to take an upgrade course and challenge the certificate exam, both in the same year following the end of the second extension.

4.4 Members may receive a maximum of two extensions per discipline. In unusual situations, exceptions may be granted after review by the ACMG Technical Committee.

5. Reinstatement from Inactive or Non-member Status

5.1 Apprentice guides applying for active membership status will be assigned a date by which they must challenge their specialty guide exam by the ACMG Technical Committee

5.2 This date will depend on their assessed level of currency in their field. People assessed with a low level of currency may not be eligible for reinstatement and may have to begin training again.

5.3 Among other requirements, reinstating apprentices may be required to take an upgrade course with a current instructor at their own expense prior to being reinstated.

6. Policy Exception

6.1 Mountain stream members who successfully completed an apprentice guide exam prior to January 1, 2012, and hiking stream members who successfully completed an apprentice exam prior to January 1, 2019, could choose to remain as permanent apprentice guides

6.2 Members who were eligible for the policy exception were given three options:

6.2.1 Challenge the certificate exam in the incomplete discipline(s) according to the above timeline

6.2.2 Remain an apprentice guide with the added requirement of one additional day of professional development (CPD) every two years

6.2.3 Resign from the ACMG

6.3 Those who chose to remain as apprentice guides (6.2.2) may, at any time, opt to join the regular ACMG apprentice timeline by challenging the appropriate certificate exam, but they may not afterwards return to permanent apprentice status

6.4 Those who chose to remain as apprentice guides (6.2.2) must pay particular attention to their scope of practice, with particular mind to supervision requirements