



ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION

Professional Ski Instructors of America
American Association of Snowboard Instructors

Teaching Guests with Visual Impairments

Audience: Current PSIA-AASI-Rocky Mountain Members interested in instructing guests with visual impairment; prospective Adaptive Level I alpine or snowboard candidates.

Discipline: All PSIA/AASI Disciplines; Adaptive Alpine

Time: Two 2.5 hour sessions plus homework **Credits:** 6 CEU's **Note:** You must be present for both classes to receive PSIA credit. There is no makeup session and there are no recordings of the sessions.

Setting: Online interactive format

Course Description: This interactive clinic serves as a base for any snowsports instructor seeking information on effectively connecting with and teaching guests with a variety of visual impairments from slight to high impact on the guests' vision. Instructors preparing for adaptive certification will find this course especially helpful.

Prerequisite skills:

Familiarity with computer or mobile device use

Overall Objectives:

1. Describe how the eye works
2. Explain common visual assessment terms and perform a student assessment
3. Articulate some of the most prevalent visual impairments in adapted snowsports lessons
4. Describe classes of medications commonly prescribed for students with visual impairments
5. Explore indoor and on-hill guiding techniques

Sample Activities:

- Visual impairment diagnoses empathy activity
- Visual function
- Diagnoses and considerations in snowsports
- Communication methodologies
- Create exercise lines for guests with low to no vision
- Guiding activities for various environments
- Safety specific to guests with visual impairment

PSIA



AASI

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Materials Needed:

- Consistent Internet access
- Desktop or mobile device with display, speaker, microphone, and webcam capabilities