



ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION
 Professional Ski Instructors of America
 American Association of Snowboard Instructors

ALPINE LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Updated September 2018

PSIA Alpine Level 2 Certification involves the completion of 2 elements

- Level 2 Prerequisites
- Level 2 Modules

PSIA Alpine Level 2 Prerequisites:

- PSIA Level 1 Certification (or foreign equivalent) or PSIA Level 2 Certification in another discipline.
- Complete 2 of the Level 2 Prerequisite Elective Courses.
- Complete the Level 2 Proficiency Log
- Pass the Online Written Exam

Level 2 Prerequisite Elective Courses:

- *all prerequisite courses must be taken after passing the Level 1 exam.
- *CS1 can be used as both a prerequisite and as the required module
- *Coaches qualification must be submitted as a Non-PSIA Clinic Credit to the PSIA-RM Office

Teaching Courses

Alpine Teaching Prep 201
 Children's Specialist One (CS1)
 Cert. in secondary Discipline

Technical Courses

Boot Balancing & Alignment
 201 Movement Analysis Indoor
 201 Movement Analysis On Snow
 Technical Foundations Clinic
 USSA Coaches Qualification*

Skiing Courses

Precision Skiing 201
 Alp Freestyle Specialist One

PSIA Alpine Level 2 Modules:

*the 5 modules may be completed in any order, the following order is suggested

1. Children's Specialist 1 (CS1)
2. Racing Requirement
 - USSA Level 1 or above (or foreign equivalent)
 - or
 - NASTAR/Epic Race Silver Medal
 - or
 - Documented FIS or National points (must be submitted to RM office for review)
3. MA/Technical Assessment
4. Teaching Assessment
5. Skiing Assessment

PSIA Alpine Level 2 Considerations

Modular System

- Attaining PSIA Alpine Level 2 in PSIA-RM constitutes passing each of the modules.
- Passed modules do not expire as long as candidate remains a current PSIA RM member.
- Modules can be completed in any order.
- Approximately 5-6 modules of each MA, Teaching, and Skiing are conducted per year.
- CS1 is offered at various times through the season.
- The racing component is not administered by PSIA-RM. PSIA-RM racing clinics are available.

Exam Criteria & Scoring

- Exam criteria are described in the Skiing, Teaching and MA Instructor Development Pathways (IDP)
- Scored elements for Teaching and MA can be found on the PSIA-RM Scorecards
- Teaching interviews can be found on the PSIA-RM website
- Skiing tasks and terrain are chosen on the exam day from the Skiing IDP
- Skiing task videos can be found on the PSIA-RM website
- Scorecards and IDP's can be found on the PSIA-RM website

Skiing Exam Module specifics

- The skiing module is broken into three sections.
 - Highlighted Skills Tasks
 - Basic Blended Skills Tasks
 - Applied Skills Tasks
- All three sections must be passed on the same day to successfully complete the skiing module.

Important Components of the Rocky Mountain Examination Process

- Exam Candidates are evaluated by a pool of specially trained and qualified Level 2, 3 Examiners.
- Feedback is consistent with National and RM Divisional support materials.
- Specific sections in the skiing exam highlight specific skills or blends of skills.
- Feedback will be provided within each module. Feedback is specific to each Candidate and is based on the describers in the Instructor Development Pathway (IDP).

Movement Analysis / Technical Exam – Day One

Examiners will evaluate the candidates' ability to:

- Prioritize Fore / Aft or Lateral Pressure Control as a starting place for analysis.
- Describe / Quantify Skis and Body Motion. Compare / Differentiate Skis & Body Performances in 1 skill pool from 1 phase to another using D.I.R. or T.
- Construct Body Performance / Skis Performance Cause & Effect Relationships for 1 skill pool, 1 phase at a time.
- Describe more ideal Skis & Body Performances for 1 skill pool, 1 phase to another. (Prescription for Change)
- Track, on a basic level, Fore / Aft or Ski / Ski Pressure Control while analyzing rotary or edging skills.

7:30 AM - Examiner Meeting

- Room will be set for round table discussions.
- Review morning process.
- Review conditions of the day. Discuss MA terrain, lift, grooming, etc.
- Pair Examiners – Pairs will switch groups for afternoon.
- 7 candidates / group
- Scores should be written at the time of the performance
- Set lunch place and time, exchange contact info.
- Results by 4:30

8:00 AM - 8:15 AM – Check in Candidates - Pass out MA Filters

8:30 AM – Meet Candidates Indoors

- Outline format of day for group.
- Outline the daily results procedure.
 - Results will be available for a limited amount of time at the end of the day (cover time and place).
 - Cover potential performance issues that might arise from knowing results daily.
- Announce groups and introduce Examiners Pairs. 7 candidates / group
- Entire group sits down with Examiner.

8:40 AM – Skier 1: Fore/ Aft or Ski / Ski Pressure Control Skills

Assign 1 Pressure Control Skill and 2 Phases for each candidate to analyze using the table below.

	Beginning	Middle	End
Fore/Aft	1, 3	1, 2	2, 3
Ski/Ski	4, 6	4, 5, 7	5, 6, 7

Candidates will:

- Compare / Differentiate the Skis Performance in their assigned 1 skill pool from 1 turn phase to another, use D.I.R. or T.
- Compare/Differentiate the Body Performance that causes the Skis Performance in the assigned skill pool from 1 turn phase to another, using the same D.I.R. or T.

- Describe more ideal Skis & Body Performances for the assigned skill pool from 1 turn phase to another (Prescription for Change).

8:45 AM-Show Video (Skier 1)

- Each candidate will have up to 7 minutes to present.
- Examiner has 7 minutes to provide individual and/or group feedback as needed.
- Make Assignments for Skier 2

Skier 2: Rotary or Edging Control Skills

Assign 1 Rotary or Edging Control Skill and 2 Phases for each candidate to analyze using the table below.

	Beginning	Middle	End
Rotary	1, 3, 7	3, 4, 7	1, 4
Edging	2, 6	5, 6	2, 5

Candidates will:

- Compare / Differentiate the Skis Performance in their assigned 1 skill pool from 1 turn phase to another, use D.I.R. or T.
- Compare/Differentiate the Body Performance that causes the Skis Performance in the assigned skill pool from 1 turn phase to another, using the same D.I.R. or T.
- Describe more ideal Skis & Body Performances for the assigned skill pool from 1 turn phase to another (Prescription for Change).

9:50 AM – Show Video (Skier 2)

- Each candidate will have up to 7 minutes to present.
- Examiner has 7 minutes to provide individual and/or group feedback as needed.
- Make Assignments for Skier 3

Skier 3: Rotary or Edging Control Skills

Assign 1 Rotary or Edging Control Skill and 2 Phases for each candidate to analyze using the table below.

	Beginning	Middle	End
Rotary	2, 5	2, 6	5, 6
Edging	3, 4, 7	1, 3	1, 4, 7

Candidates will:

- Compare / Differentiate the Skis Performance in their assigned 1 skill pool from 1 turn phase to another, use D.I.R. or T

- Compare/Differentiate the Body Performance that causes the Skis Performance in the assigned skill pool from 1 turn phase to another, using the same D.I.R. or T
- Describe more ideal Skis & Body Performances for the assigned skill pool from 1 turn phase to another (Prescription for Change).
- Track, on a basic level, current and more ideal Fore / Aft or Ski / Ski Pressure Control, including both Ski & Body Performance.

10:55 AM-Show Video (Skier 3)

- Each candidate will have up to 7 minutes to present.
- Examiner has 7 minutes to provide individual and/or group feedback as needed.
- Introduce the group to the Examiner for the afternoon session

12:00 PM – Lunch

- Review times and place where candidates are to meet to start afternoon session at 12:30.

12:45 PM – Meet Candidates On Snow

- Find a safe and effective place for observation on mountain.
- Identify L5-L7 skiers (parallel turn entry, various turn sizes on blue terrain).
- Candidate with the Examiner One-at-a-time.
- Keep 2 Candidates – send group around for a run, provide the candidates a place to wait their turn.
- **Each Candidate watches 2 skiers, total time per candidate- 20 minutes.**

1:00 PM – 1st Candidate starts analysis

Skier 1 – Fore/Aft or Sk/Ski Pressure Control

1. The Candidates will choose between fore/aft or ski/ski pressure control as a primary focus.
2. Observe a skier of the Examiner's choosing.
3. The Candidate will compare/differentiate the ski performance from 1 turn phase to another using D.I.R. or T.
4. The Candidate will compare/differentiate the body performance that causes the described ski performance, in the same skill pool and same phases, using D.I.R. or T.
5. The Candidate will describe more ideal Skis & Body Performances for the same skill pool in the same turn phases to create a Prescription for Change.

Skier 2 – Edging or Rotary Control (track Fore/Aft or Ski/Ski Pressure Control)

1. The Candidate will choose between rotary control or edging control as a primary focus. They will also track either fore/aft or ski/ski pressure control.
2. Observe a skier of the Examiner's choosing.
3. The Candidate will compare/differentiate the ski performance in their primary skill focus from 1 turn phase to another using D.I.R. or T.
4. The Candidate will compare/differentiate the body performance that causes the described ski performance, in the same skill pool and same phases, using D.I.R. or T.
5. The Candidate will describe more ideal Skis & Body Performances for the same skill pool in the same turn phases to create a Prescription for Change.
6. The Candidate will give a brief description of current and more ideal ski/body performance for fore/aft or ski/ski pressure control for the skier.

3:20PM – Return to Meeting Room and Complete Scorecards

- Examiners will work together to create a final composite score based on both indoor and outdoor presentations.

4:30-5:00 PM – Results

- Full pass certificates will be awarded and scorecards will be handed out to those who will not be attending any other day of the exam.
- Results will be available to those who wish for them during the specified time.

Teaching Exam - Day Two

Examiners will evaluate the candidates' ability to:

- Demonstrate a pattern which creates a safe learning environment as required in Intermediate Zone Skiing with Intermediate Level Skiers
- Demonstrate how they welcome students and introduce the lesson by:
 - Establishing trust and rapport
 - Providing a big picture overview of desired outcomes
- Develop a goal statement that includes:
 - A description of current ski and body performance
 - A description of final ski and body performance
 - The relevance between the prescribed changes and the student's motivations and desired outcomes
- Select appropriate activities that focus on tactics and technique
- Provide easy to understand instructions relative to desired outcomes
- Provide accurate demonstrations relative to the desired outcomes
- Continually check for understanding and modify practice as needed
- Provide specific & and timely feedback
- Review progress and plan independent practice; Preview future learning outcomes; Invite students to return

7:30 AM - Examiner Meeting

- Review process for the day.
- Review conditions of the day. Discuss MA terrain, lift, grooming, etc.
- Pair Examiners
- Seven candidates per group
- Scores should be written at the time of the performance
- Set lunch place and time.
- Results by 4:30

8:00 - 8:15 AM – Candidates Check-In

8:30 AM – Exam manager welcomes the group.

- Outline the format of the day for group.
- Remind candidates that they are teaching students at levels 5, 6, and 7. Examples of teaching settings can include introduction to bumps, variable snow, carving, black groomed, parallel on blue terrain, etc. Have candidates show us what they do and encourage them to move the group.
- Announce groups and introduce examiners. Up to seven candidates per examining pair.
- Outline the daily results procedure.
 - Results will be available for a limited amount of time at the end of the day (cover time and place).
 - Cover potential performance issues that might arise from knowing results daily.

8:40 AM – Examiners meet with their groups and organize the details of the day.

- Develop rapport with group.
- Create two groups, one group of four and one group of three.
- There will be two videos, one child and one adult. Candidates may choose to watch the video of a child or an adult.
- Videos will include skiing although candidates are not being assessed on MA
- Candidates will choose one skill pool to highlight in their presentations.
- Assign each candidate a portion of the Teaching Cycle to observe during the other candidates' presentations. They will be asked some questions about their observations at the end of the day.
 - This is a starting point for a conversation and may involve other aspects of the teaching cycle.
- Explain the format of the day and its three parts. Each part will cover sections of the Teaching Cycle, and final scores are composed from these three parts.

8:50 AM – Start videos

9:10 - 10:10 AM – Introduction, Pre-Learning, and Assessment (Outside)

- Each candidate will lead the group for 5 minutes. They will **DEMONSTRATE** how they would introduce their lesson segment and develop rapport, and how they might assess movements, understanding, and motivations using various tasks.
- Candidates will present a 1st draft of their goal statement at the completion of this segment
- Candidates may demonstrate what they do/would do in this section through a show and tell process or through role play.

10:10 AM - 2:10 PM – Presentation of Lesson (Outside, includes a 30-minute lunch)

- Each Candidate is given up to 20 minutes to present the body of their lesson to the group. They will deliver Goal Statement and then **DEMONSTRATE** how they Present and Share Information and how they Guide Practice with Feedback for their chosen skill. Each portion must be relevant to the assigned guest. Including chair rides, a new presentation must start every 30 minutes.
- Candidates may demonstrate what they do/would do in this section through a show and tell process or through role play.

2:30 - 3:45 PM – Reflection, Checking for Learning, and Teaching Cycle Knowledge (Inside)

- Examiners will interview each candidate in private for 7-10 minutes and ask the following questions:
- Having some time to reflect on your presentations, is there anything that you would do differently?
- Thinking about your presentation, what would be some indicators that learning had taken place and that it was time for the next step?
- What did you observe your assigned part of the Teaching Cycle during the other candidates' presentations?
- Candidates are asked these questions to begin a conversation about teaching and to help assess a candidate's depth of knowledge relative to teaching skiing.

3:45 PM – Return to indoor meeting room

- Examiner pairs complete the results sheets from the final scores recorded on the hill.

4:30 - 5:00 PM

- Full pass certificates will be awarded and scorecards will be handed out to those who will not be attending any other day of the exam.
- Results will be available to those who wish for them during the specified time.

Skiing Exam – Day Three

Examiners will evaluate the candidates' ability to:

- Ski/demonstrate a variety of tasks outlined on the PSIA-RM Skiing IDP.
- Tasks are divided into 3 groups; highlighted tasks, basic blended skiing and applied skiing.

7:30 AM – Examiner Meeting

- Time management is crucial for a successful day.
- Review conditions of the day. Discuss skiing terrain, lifts, grooming, etc.
- Pair Examiners.
- Exam tasks will be selected from IDP.
- Up to 9 candidates / group Scores should be written at the time of the performance
- Results by 4:30

8:00 AM - 8:15 AM – Check in Candidates

8:30 AM – Meet Candidates Indoors

- Announce groups & introduce Examiners.
- Meet in combined groups with examiner pairs.

9:00 AM - 2:30 PM – On-hill with ½ hour lunch.

- Locations are consistent for all exam candidate groups.

- Describe task with candidates.
- Demonstrate each task for candidates.
- Allow 3 attempts when possible. 1st practice. 2nd coaching / feedback. 3rd final scored.
- Watch all attempts. Score “ownership” of the task.
- Keep feedback consistent throughout exam. By doing this candidate keeps the same focus as tasks change and tasks become progressively less time consuming.

3:00 PM – Return to meeting room indoors

- Complete Scorecards

4:30 PM – Results Presentation

- Full Pass Certificates and Pins are awarded.
- Examiners are available for feedback.