

Dear Membership,

Many of you have heard that PSIA-RM-AASI is now requiring our alpine and snowboard membership to attend the Certification Update clinic once every four years if you are not currently in a certification pathway. I hope by informing you of our intentions and related processes, you will have a clearer understanding of what is expected so you can plan your ongoing education credits moving forward.

The Certification Update (CU) clinic was created because your member school directors and managers asked for a clinic that ensured those pros who are not currently involved in the certification pathway remain current with their sliding and teaching abilities as well as with their technical understanding relevant to their certification level. This clinic is designed to be a supportive learning environment that will give our membership specific feedback on these abilities. We are currently in the process of creating a feedback form for each pro to walk away with written feedback to use in their personal development.

Please let me be clear with the fact this is a clinic, not an exam. I've heard people refer to this as a "recertification" exam. I can assure you this is not a recertification and nobody is in jeopardy of losing their certification as a result from attending this event. In fact, you will be the only person to see your feedback. We will not share your feedback with your school or keep it on file in the office.

With the current CU requirement, you are expected to take the CU clinic once every four years or every other education credit cycle. This is the first year of the four year cycle, so if you take an elective clinic next, you will need to take the CU clinic as your following clinic in the next two year cycle, or vice versa. If you are currently in the certification process, meaning you are taking exam prerequisites or exams, these clinics will serve as your CU requirement and you will not be required to take the CU clinic.

I bet you are wondering what the consequences are if you don't take the clinic? The answer is there are currently no consequences from PSIA-RM-AASI for failure to attend the CU. Our member schools have asked us to track who stays current with this requirement and share it with them at the end of each season. As long as you continue to pay your dues and take 12 credits (two days of clinics) every two years, you are not at risk of losing your certification through this process.

Since our initial communication last season and this fall about the CU clinic, we have been asked several questions about the new requirement. Here are a few of those questions in hopes they answer some of your own –

- Is this clinic required on top of the already required clinics?
  - No, you get credits for attending the CU clinic which will satisfy your two year cycle requirement.
- What if this clinic is not offered at my area?
  - We will be working hard to offer this clinic at every resort across a two year window. If you'd like to organize your own traveling CU clinic, contact your resort training manager and they can contact us about organizing one for your resort.
- Do I have to take this clinic if I am only certified in Telemark, Cross Country, or Adaptive?

- No. Our current requirements are for alpine and snowboard certified pros only.
- Do I need to take this clinic if I am over 70 years-old or a 35+ year Rocky Mountain member?
  - No. As a 70+ year old member and a 35+ year Rocky Mountain member, you are no longer required to earn education credits.
- What if I'm a 25+ year member?
  - You are required to complete your education credits once every 5 years, so you will need to take the CU clinic once between your 25<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> year. If you are already not due for clinics until after your 35<sup>th</sup> year, you do not need to take the CU clinic.
- What if I am living outside of the USA and I am unable to travel back to take the clinic?
  - You can take a clinic in your current country's professional snowsports organization. This clinic will serve as your CU requirement with prior permission from RM's Director of Education. Please reach out to the RM office beforehand to make sure you gather the proper information to share with the RM office.

As I currently write this in November, I have been watching it snow out my window in Steamboat. I hope it's snowing where you are at as well and we both get to go outside very soon and enjoy this amazing start to our season.

Please don't hesitate to contact the RM office or your local training manager if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



Dave Gregory

Director of Education

PSIA-RM-AASI