

Welcome to Southern Division's Certified Program web page.

My involvement with the Certified Program is often the most valuable professional development experience of my year. It is a great opportunity to participate in an exciting endeavor with leading experts in our industry. I hope that the program can provide you with the same benefit. Welcome to the program!

Brandon Deane  
Southern Division Certified Advisor

These goals are listed in the last edition of the Certified Section of the Ski Patroller's Manual.

#### CERTIFIED PROGRAM GOALS

- Provide performance standards and evaluation on a broad range of patrol skills and knowledge
- Increase patroller's awareness of issues relevant to ski area operations
- Provide a readily identifiable resource of highly skilled, motivated, and knowledgeable patrollers to better serve NSP, ski area management, and the outdoor recreation community through instruction and/or leadership
- Promote interaction and exchange between paid and volunteer patrollers
- Build on, but not duplicate, the Outdoor Emergency Care Program and or the Senior OEC Program by providing a flexible, **self-directed training** program to develop member skills

The Certified program serves the ski patrol training needs of our leaders, including everyone from shift supervisors to patrol directors to our various volunteer leaders.

This analogy may be instructive. If the process of attaining basic patroller status is like high school, and the process of attaining senior patroller status is like college, then the process of attaining certified patroller status is like graduate school. This analogy's primary value is the parallel between graduate school where professors guide the study but planning and executing the experiences necessary to gain the knowledge and experience falls to the student. While the program has some educational components its focus is primarily to verify the skills, knowledge, and experience a candidate possesses. Read "Certified Made Easy" to gain more insight.

The primary vehicle which the Certified Program utilizes to help students attain certification is a examination process which focuses on the following modules.

|          |                                     |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Module 1 | Area Operations and Risk Management |
| Module 2 | Avalanche Rescue                    |
| Module 3 | Emergency Care                      |
| Module 4 | Rope Rescue and Lift Evacuation     |
| Module 5 | Skiing/Snowboarding                 |
| Module 6 | Toboggan Handling                   |

Read “Certified Exam Parts” for a more detailed explanation of the Southern Division’s Certified Program.

You can start participating in the Certified Program at any point during the year. (read Certified How to Get Involved) The earlier you contact us the better we can serve your needs. Keep in mind that a new candidate must prequalify at the Snowshoe clinic early in January in order to be examined. Details regarding getting involved are available in “Certified Candidate Prerequisites”. Guidance directly from a Certified Patroller is invaluable. Any Certified Patroller will be happy to help you.

To gain more information check out these documents in the Southern Division web based library.

Southern Division Certified Program Calendar 2010  
Southern Division Certified Program Candidate Checklist  
Southern Division Certified Program Candidate Prerequisites  
Southern Division Certified Program Exam Components  
Southern Division Certified Program How to Get Involved  
Southern Division Certified Program Made Easy  
Southern Division Certified Program Policies and Procedures 2006  
Southern Division Certified Program Supplemental Questionnaire

The NSP Education Program Certified Candidate/Recertification Application form is available on the NSP web site.