



Welcome to the Certified Program! You will find this to be the most rewarding program in National Ski Patrol. The content is exciting, and the comradery is second to none. You will be challenged and will find your limitations, and then exceed those limitations with the help and support of the program and its membership. What you will gain is an expansion of your skill set and high confidence in your abilities as a patroller and leader.

Application to the Certified program begins with your commitment to understand the physical and mental demands of the process. This is accomplished by spending time skiing/riding with certified patrollers all over the division at events to learn about their experience and knowledge of the program. Then you are ready to fill out an application form. Many candidates have already achieved senior status and are current OEC or OET instructors, and even participated in avalanche, MTR or other training activities. These qualifications are great starting points for the Certified Program. There are questions in the form of a few short answer essays on your NSP experiences and commitment to learning and teaching. The Credentials Committee will dig deeply into your application. The committee looks beyond the checked boxes. They look for demonstrated leadership, and very importantly leadership outside of your local patrol.

As part of the program, you will learn from the top members of the National Ski Patrol. You will receive direct firsthand tips, advice and guidance from the most skilled members in NSP. All that is asked in return is that you pass on this knowledge to our future members, to your fellow local patrollers, and patrollers in your Region. This is a critical aspect of the program, and something very important to our continued success at shaping future generations of the NSP. The Certified Program looks for new candidates that demonstrate the principles of giving back knowledge and experience to patrollers. Whether that is teaching a toboggan class at a neighboring hill, or helping with the Region's Senior testing, the Credentials Committee wants to see active leadership participation. The committee wants to know that not only can you excel in the program with your patroller qualifications, but that you will demonstrate your leadership abilities and pass the knowledge on to future members.

Your challenge is to use the application to convey your NSP experience and abilities, and more importantly to convey your willingness and desire to give back to NSP what you learn in the Certified Program. So hit on all the themes in your application. Everyone is here to help you on your Certified Journey and the Credentials Committee is eager to accept you into the program.

We look forward to you joining the program!

Jim OConnor
Certified #626
Credentials Committee Chairperson
Jimoak54@gmail.com (508) 847-5952

