

Application Process for Snowshoe Leader

We are always interested in adding more trips to the schedule and becoming an leader is a great way to help us out!

Before you can sign up to lead a Tacoma Mountaineers' snowshoe trip, you must be on the leadership roster. Leadership qualities, group and individual safety, experience, and level headed decision-making are four major components to successful leadership. Therefore, we have minimum requirements for those interested in becoming a volunteer trip leader.

- If your experience appears close to (or exceeds) these guidelines for the level you would like to lead, please fill out the corresponding application, linked below.
 - [Basic Snowshoe Leader Application](#)
 - [Intermediate Snowshoe Leader Application](#)
- Once an application is received it will be reviewed by Snowshoe committee and a mentor will be assigned.
- Mentors are responsible to track an applicant's progress and provide guidance.
- Once all requirements are completed, the mentor will report the candidate's progress to the Tacoma Snowshoe Committee.
- The committee will review the mentor feedback and accepts or rejects the snowshoe leadership application.

PLEASE NOTE: Depending on the season and volunteer availability, the review process may take weeks to complete. All applications are subject to Snowshoe Committee approval. The Committee reserves the right to hold or reject any application for any reason.

The Mountaineers, Tacoma Branch

Snowshoe Leadership Requirements

	New Mountaineers Leader Path ¹		Current Mountaineers Leader Path ²	
	BASIC SNOWSHOE	INTERMEDIATE SNOWSHOE	BASIC SNOWSHOE	INTERMEDIATE SNOWSHOE
Minimum Course Requirements	Basic Snowshoe Graduate OR Basic Snowshoe Equiv.	Basic Snowshoe Leader + Intermediate Snowshoe Graduate (or equivalent ³)	Basic Snowshoe Graduate OR Basic Snowshoe Equiv.	Basic Snowshoe Leader + Intermediate Snowshoe Graduate (or equivalent ³)
Additional Snowshoe experience	Min. 2 trips (Basic)	Min. 2 trips (Intermediate)	Min. 2 trips (Basic)	Min. 2 trips (Intermediate)
Snowshoe Instructor experience	Basic Snowshoe FT	Intermediate Snowshoe FT	Basic Snowshoe FT	Intermediate Snowshoe FT
Trip Leader Experience	Min. 2 Mentored Snowshoe trips (Basic)	Min. 2 Mentored Snowshoe trips (Intermediate)	Trip Leader in another Mountaineers Activity (min 3 trips within last 12 months) + Min. 1 Mentored Snowshoe trip (Basic)	Trip Leader in another Mountaineers Activity (min 3 trips within last 12 months) + Min. 1 Mentored Snowshoe trip (Intermediate)
Current WFA/MOFA certification	●	●	●	●
Current Wilderness Navigation certification	●	●	●	●
Level 1 Avalanche (AIARE I) certification	◇	●	◇	●
Outdoor Leadership Course Graduate	△	△	△	△

BASIC SNOWSHOE – No exposure to steep terrain which would require the use of an ice axe with minimal avalanche danger. Not a Beginner snowshoe.

INTERMEDIATE SNOWSHOE – Exposure to terrain that may require the use of an ice axe and/or the use of avalanche tools: beacon, probe, and shovel.

- Required
- ◇ Strongly encouraged
- △ Leader candidates must complete within 1 year

- ¹ Applicant does **not** hold a current Mountaineers' leadership badge
- ² Applicant holds a current Mountaineers' leadership badge for another activity
- ³ A graduate of Basic Alpine Climbing, Alpine Scrambling, or Basic Glacier Climbing who has also completed the Avalanche Rescue or AIARE Level I course is considered equivalent.