

Certification Pathway/Assessment Guidelines

Level 3 Canoe Instructorship Award

Applying to Attend an Assessment

Before applying to attend a Level 3 Canoe Instructor Assessment, a trainee must:

1. Have maintained registration as a Level 3 Canoe Instructor trainee.
2. Hold a Level 2 Canoe Instructor Qualification.
3. Hold the Canoeing Ireland Level 4 Canoe Skills Award.
4. Be at least 18 years of age.
5. Have unrestricted access to a fully equipped canoe, personal equipment and additional equipment as listed for a Level 3 Canoe Instructor Assessment
6. Have attended an approved Level 3 Canoe Instructor Training Course or Programme as organised by the Canoeing Ireland within the 24 months period preceding a selected assessment date.
7. Possess a current and Canoeing Ireland approved First Aid Certificate (REC 3, WFA 3 or equivalent)
8. Have completed a Sport Ireland approved Child Protection Awareness Workshop.
9. Completed your Garda vetting process.
10. Be a member of Canoeing Ireland
11. Returned to the Canoeing Ireland Office a completed Level 3 Canoe Instructor Logbook accompanied by all the pre -assessment requirements and a Level 3 Canoe Instructor Assessment application no later than three weeks prior to a selected assessment date.

Other logbook requirements:

1. Recorded in a Level 3 Canoe Instructor Logbook, following the completion of a Level 3 Canoe Instructor Training Course at least 25 hours on the river of instructional experience under the supervision of at least two registered Level 3 Canoe Instructors
2. Recorded as part of the 25 hours supervised instructional experience on at least three different river trips details of assisting in the preparation of a group for a Level 3 Canoe Skills Assessment. This group must consist of at least three participants.
3. Assist on two Level 3 Canoe Skills Assessments.
4. Assist on two RSR 2 Courses
5. Participate in three Irish Canoeing Competitions or hold a Level 3 Skills Award in another discipline.
6. Be recommended for assessment by a registered Level 3 Instructor.

Format of the Assessment

1. During a Level 3 Canoe Instructor Assessment, trainees must satisfy an assessor that they are mature, responsible, and competent to instruct, lead, and control a group on a river trip of Grade II difficulty.
2. During the period of a Level 3 Canoe Instructor Training Course and if necessary, at an assessment, a trainee's personal canoeing skills and First Aid may be assessed. It would be expected that a trainee would at least have maintained a skills level equivalent to that of the Level 4 Canoe Skills Award and where possible improved on this.

A candidate will be expected to:

1. Organise and lead an instructional session for a group of canoeists with basic and/or intermediate level skills during a river trip.
2. Teach any stroke, technique or rescue applicable to water up to and including Grade II difficulty as outlined in the Level 3 Canoe Skills Award demonstrate effective group control, group rapport, and instructional ability.
3. Demonstrate effective group control, group rapport, and instructional ability.
4. Demonstrate an ability to carry out the following rescues efficiently and effectively Self Rescue, X and/or Assisted -X Rescue, All-in-Rescue and Unconscious Casualty
5. Demonstrate an effective method of towing an empty Canoe, a canoe with a participant who has a minor injury or illness, a canoe with a participant who has a major injury or illness.
6. Prepare a debrief of the instructional session for an assessor.
7. Demonstrate all techniques and skills as required by the Level 4 Canoe Skills Award.
8. Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of First Aid in the canoeing environment as well as a thorough working knowledge of the cause/effect/treatment of Shock, Hypothermia, EAR, CPR and the treatment of an unconscious casualty.
9. Possess a suitable canoe correctly fitted out for instruction and other appropriate personal equipment (see Instructor list of equipment). It would be expected that a trainee's equipment would be of a standard consistent with the responsibilities likely to be encountered by an Instructor. Examination of equipment will form part of the overall assessment.
10. Answer questions either written or oral on aspects of canoeing covered during the training course.
11. Have recorded in a logbook all canoeing activities including details of the Level 3 Canoe Instructor Training Course. A logbook should reflect a wide range of canoe experience during the period of the Training Course. Details of canoeing activities (both kayak and/or canoe) prior to applying for the Level 3 Canoe Instructor Training Course should also be recorded.
12. Candidates will only be invited to attend an assessment on the satisfactory completion of all the requirements including the submission of a logbook and attendance on a complete Level 3 Canoe Instructor Training Course.

Assessment Guidelines

1. A Level 3 Canoe Instructor Qualification can only be assessed by members of the Level 3 Canoe Instructor Assessor Panel
2. It is recommended that Instructors other than the Instructor who has run the training course leading to the assessment assess a Level 3 Canoe Instructor Qualification.
3. Clear guidelines should be given in writing should a candidate fail an assessment as to the areas that need to be improved on.
4. Candidates cannot depend on any assistance (material or practical) during an assessment.
5. No other award may be assessed at the same time as the Level 3 Canoe Instructor Qualification.
6. The candidate/assessor ratio should be a maximum of 6:2.
7. A Level 3 Canoe Instructor Assessment must be assessed by a minimum of two members of the Level 3 Canoe Instructor Assessor Panel.