

Certification Pathway/Assessment Guidelines

Level 3 Kayak Instructorship Award

Applying for an Assessment

Before applying to attend a Level 3 Kayak Instructor Assessment, a candidate must:

1. Have Maintained your member registration as a Level 3 Kayak Instructor trainee.
2. Hold a Level 2 Kayak Instructor Qualification.
3. Hold the Canoeing Ireland Level 4 Kayak Skills Award.
4. Be at least 18 years of age.
5. Have unrestricted access to a fully equipped kayak, personal equipment and additional equipment as listed for a Level 3 Kayak Instructor Assessment.
6. Have attended an approved Level 3 Kayak 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. Be a member of Canoeing Ireland.
10. Completed your Garda vetting process.
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 Kayak Instructor Logbook, following the completion of a Level 3 Kayak Instructor Training Course at least 25 hours on the river of instructional experience under the supervision of at least two registered Level 3 Kayak 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 Kayak Skills Assessment. This group must consist of at least three participants.
3. Assist on two Level 3 Kayak 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 the Level 3 Kayak Instructor Assessment candidates must satisfy the assessors that they are mature, responsible, and competent to instruct, lead and control a group on water of Grade II difficulty. In addition to teaching and personal kayaking ability, candidates must also demonstrate that they are sufficiently mature and responsible to manage a group.
2. During the period of the Level 3 Kayak Instructor Assessment personal kayaking skills and application of first aid may be assessed. It would be expected that a candidate would at least have maintained a skills level equivalent to that of the Level 4 Kayak Skills and where possible improved on this.

A candidate will be expected to:

1. Organise and lead an instructional session for beginners or intermediates over the course of 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 Kayak Skills Award demonstrate effective group control, group rapport, and instructional ability.
3. Prepare a self-appraisal of the lesson plan water session for the Assessor.
4. Demonstrate techniques and skills as required by the Level 4 Kayak Skills Award if requested to do so.
5. Demonstrate an ability to carry out the following rescues efficiently and effectively Self Rescue, X and/or Assisted-X Rescue, All-in-Rescue, Unconscious Casualty, and Eskimo Rescue
6. Demonstrate an ability to roll competently in moving water without any prior set-up.
7. Demonstrate an effective method of towing an empty kayak, a kayak with a participant who has a minor injury or illness and a kayak with a participant who has a major injury or illness.
8. Present a suitable kayak correctly fitted out for instruction along with other appropriate personal equipment (See Level 3 Kayak Instructor List of Equipment). It would be expected that a candidate's equipment would be of a standard consistent with the responsibilities likely to be encountered by a Level 3 Kayak Instructor. Examination of equipment will form part of the overall assessment.
9. Demonstrate effective group control, group rapport and instructional ability.
10. Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of First Aid in the canoeing environment as well as a thorough working knowledge of the cause, effect and treatment of Shock, Hypothermia, EAR, CPR, and the treatment of an unconscious casualty.
11. Answer questions on aspects of canoeing covered during a Level 3 Kayak Instructor Training Course
12. Attend an interview at which a self-appraisal is presented.

Assessment Guidelines

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