

1. What type of person would be interested in this study program?

People who:

- Aged 18 or over (industry driven preference). Call to discuss if you don't meet this requirement.
- Have a drive and commitment to grow personally
- Are dependable and work well in teams
- Believe passionately in the beauty of nature and the importance of protecting it
- Are adventurous and are seeking a career in Outdoor Recreation
- Enjoy working and living outdoors
- Have easy access to a computer and the internet, or TAFE location
- Possess an ability to work independently and show initiative in terms of problem solving
- Possess well developed computer literacy skills
- Possess good practical outdoor skills in at least one outdoor activity
- Are interested in changing careers
- Can dedicate 15 weeks to gaining to the qualification
- Are already in the Outdoor industry and are looking to update their qualifications

2. What are the prerequisites for the course?

- Love outdoor activities and outdoor living
- A high level of computer literacy skills
- Easy access to a computer and the internet or a TAFE College where you can gain computer access in the library.

Students need no prior formal skills training in Outdoor Recreation but must have an active interest in being outdoors. A moderate level of fitness is required to complete the practical component of the course. Students will gain significant experience in "life skills" especially in leadership, problem solving, self-sufficiency, first aid and interpersonal skills.

3. Where does the course lead?

This qualification provides the skills and knowledge for an individual to be competent in guiding outdoor recreation activities in a controlled environment. It requires technical knowledge of the outdoor recreation activity to be utilised to allow individuals to safely participate in the outdoor activity. It does not provide the skills and knowledge and expertise to allow students to independently undertaking and/or leading outdoor recreation activities.

A guide operating in a controlled environment has the skills, knowledge and experience to work autonomously within a closely defined range of parameters involving known routines, methods and procedures. Work would be undertaken in field locations with clearly defined site specific situations such as camps, recreation centres and facilities or fields on various public lands. Work may be undertaken in differing environments such as water-based, dry land and mountainous terrains, using a diverse range of equipment.

4. Job roles

The following is indicative of the role appropriate for this qualification:

- Outdoor guide (controlled environment)

The Certificate 3 in Outdoor Recreation provides the training required to enter a career in the Outdoor Recreation industry. Graduates of the Certificate 3 could expect to gain entry level employment into the Outdoor Adventure Guiding and Outdoor Education Industry.

5. How long is this course?

This course commences in Semester 1 February to June, or Semester 2 July to December. If you successfully complete Certificate 3 in Outdoor Recreation you are able to enrol in the Certificate 4 in Outdoor Recreation. Certificate 4 will enable you to work unsupervised in the field in remote settings.

6. What is involved in the course?

To gain a Certificate 3 in Outdoor Recreation you must successfully complete a total of 24 units consisting of:

- 12 core units (compulsory) – the majority of units will be offered to you with a blended delivery of classroom and online study.
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- 12 elective units (including activity specialisations)
In 2019 we will be offering the bushwalking, canoeing, high and low ropes and mountain biking as the activity streams.

Additional activity specialisations may be available in 2019 in abseiling, and canyoning. Additional fees will apply.

7. Where will I be studying?

This course will be undertaken at a range of venues, including the online world. Practical training and assessment will be held in a variety of venues including the Blue Mountains, Kanangra Boyd National Park, Wollemi National Park and Morton National Park, as well as other areas in the Southern Highlands. Classroom days will be conducted at Lithgow College.

8. Can I study this course by distance education?

No. Whilst some content is delivered online the majority is delivered face to face.

9. Where is Lithgow College?

It is situated 150 km west of Sydney on the edge of the Blue Mountains, however you don't need to live in Lithgow to attend this course. Often students camp together at the local Caravan Park.

10. Can I study this course by distance education?

No. Whilst some content is delivered online the majority is delivered face to face.

11. Do I have to do work experience?

Yes, students are required to undertake 3 x 5 day blocks of vocational placement

with our Industry Partners. In addition to this students are required to undertake 2 x 3 days Skills Enhancement Projects (SEP's) known as personal trips.

12. How much does the course cost?

Go to <https://smartandskilled.nsw.gov.au/> for further information or contact the Course Coordinator Georgie on 02 6352 0472 to discuss your eligibility. If you live outside of NSW you are unable to access Smart and Skilled Funding. However, if you work inside NSW you are eligible for Smart and Skilled Funding.

Additional costs: students will be responsible for purchasing some of their own equipment and covering meals and transportation whilst in the field. Students are also required to pay for the first aid course they choose. If undertaking the canoeing stream it is suggested that students undertake a Bronze Medallion course (at additional cost), which is an industry expectation upon course completion.

Initially students will be able to borrow some of the equipment required to complete the course. However, students should expect to purchase personal equipment throughout the course such as a backpack, raincoat, sleeping bag, rain pants and compass. Those seeking employment on course completion, would be expected to provide much of their personal equipment upon entering the workforce. Students will pay a \$300 course materials fee each.

13. How do I get started?

Complete the expression of interest form and email this to the Certificate 3 Course Coordinator Georgina MacSmith georgina.macsmith3@tafensw.edu.au

14. What is the closing date for applications? Monday, 8 January 2019

15. When does the course start? Tuesday 29 January 2019

16. How much time do I spend in the field, classroom, Industry and on personal trips?

Classroom days in Lithgow	Field Trips in Blue Mountains, Southern Highlands & Hawkesbury region	Vocational Placements with Industry Partners	Skill Enhancement Project (SEP) Personal Trips
20 days	29 days	15 days (set blocks allocated)	6 days

17. What units will I gain in completing my Certificate 3?

Core

BSBWOR301B	Organise personal work priorities and development
SISOODR302A	Plan outdoor recreation activities
SISOODR303A	Guide outdoor recreation sessions
SISOOPS201A	Minimise environmental impact
SISOOPS306A	Interpret weather conditions in the field
SISXCAI306A	Facilitate groups
SISXCCS201A	Provide customer service
SISXEMR201A	Respond to emergency situations
SISXOHS101A	Follow occupational health and safety policies
SISXRSK301A	Undertake risk analysis of activities
TAEDEL301A	Provide work skill instruction
HLTAID003	Provide first aid

Canoe

SISOCNE201A	Demonstrate simple canoeing skills
SISOCNE202A	Perform deep water rescues
SISOCNE303A	Apply canoeing skills
SISOCNE305A	Guide canoeing trips on flat and undemanding water

Bushwalking

SISOBWG201A	Demonstrate bushwalking skills in a controlled environment
SISOBWG303A	Guide bushwalks in a controlled environment
SISONAV201A	Demonstrate navigation skills in a controlled environment
PUAOPE002B	Operate communications systems and equipment

Other

SISOCR302A	Conduct high ropes
SISOCR301A	Conduct low ropes
SISOABL301A	Assist in the facilitation of adventure-based learning activities
SISOBWG404A	Apply river crossing skills

This course is equivalent to a full time pattern of study, averaging 3-5 days each week. You do not need to be based in Lithgow to complete this course, but need to be able to access this region easily.