

18-Point Curriculum Integration into Core Competencies

The 18-point curriculum falls neatly into the six core competencies to provide a more concise and equally weighted outdoor leadership curriculum without losing any of the original content of the WEA curriculum. Judgment remains the overarching theme above all of the individual competencies.

Judgment

Point 1 - Decision Making and Problem Solving

Outdoor Living

Point 5 - Basic
Camping Skills

Point 7 - Equipment
and Clothing Selection
and Use

Point 8 - Weather

Point 9 - Health and
Sanitation

Point 10 - Travel
Techniques

Point 12 - Navigation

Planning and Logistics

Point 6 - Nutrition
and Rations Planning

Point 17 - Trip
Planning

Risk Management

Point 11 - Safety and
Risk Management

Leadership

Point 2 - Leadership

Point 3 - Expedition
Behavior and Group
Dynamics

Point 16 -
Communication Skills

Environmental Integration

Point 4 -
Environmental Ethics

Point 14 - Natural and
Cultural History

Education

Point 18 - Teaching,
Processing and
Transference

Points 13 and 15 are not included in the core competency areas above. These two points are covered under endorsements. Affiliates can choose to offer skill endorsements, which are "value added" benefits to Outdoor Leader Certification. Endorsements are designed for the technical skill disciplines within our industry centered on student learning outcomes.

Endorsements

Point 13 - Wilderness Emergency Procedures and Treatment
Point 15 - Specialized Travel/Adventure Activity

Core Competency Definitions

The six core competencies are defined below. The definitions provide the structure for the specific outcomes in each competency. Please visit www.weainfo.org/curriculum for the complete listing of curriculum outcomes for each of the six core competencies.

Judgment

Judgment is the act of integrating previously learned information with situational factors to arrive at a decision.

Outdoor Leaders are often presented with decision-making challenges in an uncertain environment with limited information. Outdoor leaders must demonstrate judgment by effectively integrating core competencies and situational variables to make and implement quality decisions. Accurate assessment and application of skills using judgment is the central quality of an effective outdoor leader.

Outdoor Living

- The specific outdoor skills that are essential to individual/group sustainability in the backcountry.

Planning and Logistics

- The knowledge, skills and ability to design, implement, and prepare outdoor expedition trips a minimum of 7 days long.

Risk Management

- A structured approach to manage actual risk, emotional risk and perceived risk through: risk assessment, utilization of management and instructional resources, and development and execution of emergency protocols.

Leadership

- The ability to accurately self-assess as well as those essential skills concerning or involving relationships between people; the ability to effectively implement a decision.

Environmental Integration

- The concepts that embody ecological and cultural literacy along with the cooperative planning and management skills needed to ensure preservation of resources through personal connections for past, present and future generations.

Education

- The ability to know and implement theories and practices of teaching, processing and transference.