



# INTERNATIONAL RAFTING FEDERATION

## Guide Training and Education Award System

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# GTE Award System Creation and Purpose

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The Guide Training and Education (GTE) Award System was created to provide commercial operators, industry organisations, national rafting federations, government regulators and other interested parties worldwide with a common standard for whitewater professionals. The GTE System certifies Awards as set out in this document.

The GTE system is managed by the International Rafting Federation (IRF) through the GTE Committee under authority of section 47 of the IRF Bylaws. The system was first developed in 2001 and has been revised several times since that date. This document represents the latest revisions as of July 2021. Check the IRF website at [www.internationalrafting.com/guiding](http://www.internationalrafting.com/guiding) to determine if a more recent revision has superseded this document.

## Minimum Requirements

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### Candidates for Awards must:

- Be at least 18 years old at the date of assessment.
- Be able to swim.
- Hold a current, valid, IRF approved First Aid Certificate (FAC) with the following requirements:
  - Raft Guide, Whitewater Guide, Safety Kayak, and Event Safety 1 & 2: Standard First Aid certificate (minimum course duration 8 hours, must include CPR).
  - Raft Trip Leader, Event Safety 3, Instructors, and Assessors: Advanced First Aid certificate (minimum course duration 16 hours, must include CPR).
  - The certificate must show the dates of when the course was taken which must be no longer than 3 years old.
  - IRF GTE does not accept First Aid certificates that are valid for more than 3 years or were 100% on-line First Aid courses.
  - A copy of the card or certificate must be provided as proof and must ideally where possible be valid for at least six (6) months beyond the assessment (or renewal) date.
- Maintain a logbook or record of each river run in the role for which they are being assessed, ideally signed by the Trip Leader or Operations Manager of the rafting operator. As proof of experience, relevant individual / or operator contact details should be included in the logbook. The logbook must be presented to the Instructor or Assessor as proof of experience before an assessment.
- Complete at least one familiarisation run and know the evacuation routes and procedures that are appropriate for the stretch of whitewater on which they intend to Guide, Trip Lead, Instruct, or Assess.

*Note: An exception to this requirement is made in the case of highly experienced guides running exploratory or infrequently run expedition-style trips where a familiarisation run may be impractical.*

*Note: Instructors and Assessors, in cooperation with the local operator / organisation hosting the training or workshop (when applicable) are responsible for checking river levels before commencing the training or workshop to ensure that candidates are appropriately qualified, experienced and equipped for the conditions encountered.*

# Award Fee Structure

## IRF GTE Assessment Fees *(payable to the IRF)*

Note: All certifications and renewals are valid for three (3) years from date of issue.

### Guides and Trip Leaders

Guide Assessment fee	\$40.00 USD
Trip Leader Assessment fee	\$70.00 USD
Guide or Trip Leader Renewal Fee <sup>1</sup>	\$30.00 USD
Renewals for certifications expired more than three (3) months	\$30.00 USD (plus \$10.00 USD for each year expired)
Replacement certificate	\$10.00 USD

### Instructors

Instructor Assessment fee	\$130.00 USD
Instructor Renewal Fee <sup>12</sup>	\$0.00 USD
Renewals for certifications expired more than three (3) months <sup>2</sup>	\$130.00 USD (plus \$10.00 USD for each year expired)
Replacement certificate	\$10.00 USD

Where candidates have multiple assessments or renewals at one time, they will be required to pay the higher fee plus \$15.00 USD for the second qualification. For example:

Raft Guide AND Safety Kayak initial Certification	\$40.00 USD + \$15.00 USD = \$55.00 USD
Trip Leader AND Safety Kayak initial Certification	\$70.00 USD + \$15.00 USD = \$85.00 USD

## Instructor & Assessor Fees *(payable to your Instructor)*

Instructors and Assessors will normally charge a fee to compensate for their time and expense in providing a GTE GTP or assessment. These fees are set by the Instructor or Assessor and will vary in the amount charged depending on several factors including (but not limited to) length of course, location of the river, equipment and services provided, number of candidates, the country or region, and the currency and method used for payment. To determine the total cost of any assessment, you must communicate directly with your Instructor or Assessor.

<sup>1</sup> Must meet all renewal requirements within six (6) months after the date of expiration

<sup>2</sup> Must have attended a GTE Instructor Workshop or participated in a GTE Conference within the past three (3) years

# Definitions

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## General

### **Run**

A single trip down a stretch of river. For logbook purposes, a run is equivalent to every 2 hours of on-river rafting time.

### **Guide Training Program**

A Guide Training Program (GTP) is a structured course and / or on the job training that covers the skills and learning outcomes that candidates require to obtaining any IRF GTE Award certification. The IRF GTE compliant GTP lists the tasks and student learning outcomes needed. It can be found on the IRF website here as well as under Instructor Resources.

### **Assessment**

Assessments are performed by Instructors and Assessors on candidates applying for an Award.

### **Workshop**

A workshop is a combination of GTP education elements and an Assessment.

### **Training Module**

Training Modules (TM) are designed to supplement guide training with specific additional skills related to rafting such as Safety Kayaking, Safety Rafting, Event Rescue, Whitewater Guiding etc.

### **Award Level**

Award Levels indicates the type of GTE Award in relation to a candidate's assessed skill, knowledge, and experience. Assessments for a specific Award Level are always conducted on whitewater rapids which are rated to a corresponding Class / Grade. For example, the skill assessment for a Level 3 Raft Guide (RG3) candidate must be conducted on whitewater that is rated at least Class / Grade 3.

## Craft

### **Raft**

The IRF has defined a "raft" as a soft-bodied, inflatable watercraft especially constructed and designed to be maneuvered through whitewater rapids. Rafting requires specialised equipment and instruction to participate safely and competently; and may require considerable skill by the participant(s) depending upon the class / grade of difficulty of the rapids.

### **Safety Raft**

A Safety Raft is a Raft or Cataraft that is designated primarily as a platform for providing on-river safety coverage for rafts which are carrying onboard passengers. A Safety Raft is generally controlled and maneuvered by oars fixed to the raft via a rigid rowing frame, and may also be used to transport equipment, stores, and luggage (gear boat). A designated Safety Raft should not normally transport onboard passengers other than trained guide staff.

## Whitewater Craft

The IRF defines self-steered whitewater craft in two categories. Crafts within each category have similarities and guiding styles. The key difference between each category is where an individual is in relation to the craft and the propulsion method.

**Category A:** includes all craft that can carry up to three people in a seated or kneeling position on the craft. These craft are typically propelled using paddles or hands.

**Category B:** includes all craft where the person(s) using them are predominantly in the water. These craft are typically propelled using legs, feet, or flippers.

## Safety Kayak

A Safety Kayak is a whitewater kayak that has been specifically designated to provide on-river safety coverage during a raft trip. A Safety Kayak must be of a type and design that can perform swimmer rescue and equipment recovery and should never be used for other purposes (such as trip photography, etc). Safety Kayakers must always be trained and experienced in providing kayak safety support.

# Designations

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## Certification Types

### Guide

A person who has demonstrated they have the skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to control their watercraft safely and competently on whitewater while acting as captain of a crew of inexperienced paddlers. A Guide must also be capable of operating as a member of a team of Guides and be skilled in basic whitewater rescue techniques.

A Whitewater Guide must also be competent in managing a group of self-steered whitewater crafts.

Candidates for this Award must provide a logbook or other evidence of guiding experience on more than one river equal to the Level of Award desired, evidence of training equivalent to a GTE GTP, and hold a current standard first aid and CPR certification or higher.

*Note: Candidates who intend to guide using an oar-powered raft, must also obtain a Safety Raft certificate to prove competency using an oar-powered raft.*

### Safety Raft

A person who has demonstrated that they have the additional skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to provide on-river safety support safely and competently from a raft that is primarily controlled by fixed oars (oar raft or cataraft).

Candidates for this Award must provide a logbook or other evidence of safety raft experience on more than one river equal to the Level of Award desired, evidence of training equivalent to a GTE GTP, and hold a current standard first aid and CPR certification or higher.

### Safety Kayak

A person who has demonstrated that they have the additional skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to provide on-river safety support safely and competently from a kayak. Candidates for this Award must provide a logbook or other evidence of experience on more than one river equal to the Level of Award desired, evidence of training equivalent to a GTE GTP, and hold a current standard first aid and CPR certification or higher.

## **Event Safety**

A person who has demonstrated that they have the skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to provide specialised safety coverage and rescue assistance in a river or swift water environment during a raft race event. Candidates for this Award must provide evidence of recent training (within two years) in a river rescue training program approved by the IRF, OR satisfactorily complete an IRF Event Safety training program; and must hold a current standard first aid and CPR certification or higher.

## **Trip Leader**

A Guide who has demonstrated that they have the additional skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to lead a river trip competently and safely. The Trip Leader is in control of the rafting trip and is responsible for coordinating the actions of other Guides on the trip. Candidates for this Award must provide a logbook or other evidence of trip leader experience on more than one river equal to the Level of Award desired; must demonstrate a high level of Guide skill and knowledge, interpersonal skills, and a thorough knowledge of trip planning, river rescue techniques, and emergency procedures; and are required to hold a current advanced first aid certificate or higher.

## **Instructor**

A person who has demonstrated that they have the skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to conduct IRF GTE GTPs competently and safely and Assessments. GTE Instructors are the primary representatives of the IRF GTE System and are required to have exceptional interpersonal and river skills; and to represent the IRF with honour and integrity.

Candidates for this Award must possess a current Trip Leader award for the Level and type of Instructor Award that they wish to acquire; have guiding experience on a variety of different rivers, in two or more countries; be capable of demonstrating a variety of teaching methods and techniques for instructing and assessing GTP and Assessment participants; be capable of fully demonstrating all physical skills required of their students; and must hold a current advanced first aid certificate or higher.

If you become an Instructor, your email address will be included in our public database of instructors for potential candidates to contact you.

## **Assessor (Instructor Trainer)**

GTE Assessors represent the highest level of the IRF GTE System and are primarily responsible for training and assessing GTE Instructor candidates and keeping Instructors up to date with system changes through organised Instructor Workshops. Assessors must have an exceptionally high level of Instructor skills and knowledge and hold a current advanced first aid certificate or higher.

Candidates for this Award must already hold a Level 4 GTE Instructor Award; must submit an original work to the GTE Committee that demonstrates an exemplary knowledge of guiding and / or compliments and improves upon the body of work used by the IRF GTE System; must be recommended for Assessor status by a minimum of two (2) current and active IRF GTE Assessors; and must be voted for acceptance by a majority of the GTE Committee.

Assessors also act as IRF Ambassadors and are responsible for assisting government officials and regulators who have adapted the GTE System; may be called upon to help settle disputes among Instructors; serve on panels and committees; and contribute toward GTE system improvements.

# **Certification Restrictions**

## **Site Specific**

A person who has been awarded a Site Specific certification is restricted to operate only at the site specifically named on the award.

Site Specific locations are whitewater areas that rarely (if ever) change in volume or flow characteristics, such as a dam-controlled river or an artificially constructed whitewater venue. At such locations, it is possible for a Guide to perform competently by memorising the run rather than by developing river reading skills.

Site Specific certifications are not given a Level designation, but instead a specific site (as described above) is named on the certification. The site will include the venue name or river and section name. Site Specific awards are valid only at the named site, and only when the conditions are equal to those that are normally encountered at the named site.

### **Provisional**

This status is given to a candidate who has successfully complied with most of the requirements needed to obtain an Award but has not yet complied with all requirements.

A person who has been awarded Provisional status is restricted to operate only when under the direct supervision of an individual who holds a full IRF GTE certification of an equal or higher Level.

For example:

- A candidate certified as a Provisional Level 2 Raft Guide, may operate a raft ONLY if a fully certified GTE Level 2 Raft Guide (or higher) is physically in the raft with the Provisional Guide.
- A candidate certified as a Provisional GTE Level 3 Raft Instructor, may conduct a GTE workshop ONLY if a fully certified GTE Level 3 Raft Instructor (or higher) is assisting the workshop.

Candidates with Provisional status may obtain full certification once all necessary requirements have been fulfilled or demonstrated to the appropriately qualified Instructor or Assessor. It is generally not required that a person with Provisional status participate in a full Assessment to demonstrate the remaining requirements.

## **Administrative Levels**

### **Regional Assessor**

GTE Regional Assessors are Assessors who have been appointed to have regional oversight over a specific region, country, or countries. Regional Assessors are nominated by the GTE Committee and approved by the IRF Executive Committee.

Candidates must be active GTE Assessors with a thorough understanding of the entire IRF GTE System; must maintain regular contact with all GTE Instructors who reside or conduct Assessments within their region; offer regular Instructor Workshops and updates; help to resolve disputes between Instructors; initiate disciplinary hearings and actions when needed; and generally ensure that all areas of the GTE System within their region is organised and managed with integrity, honour, and according to current procedures and requirements.

### **GTE Administration**

GTE Administration (GTE Admin) is a division of the IRF created by the IRF Board of Directors and charged with administering the day-to-day business of the GTE System. GTE Admin is responsible for administering the GTE System as set out in this document including, but not limited to, administering payments and paperwork, and fielding basic questions about the program.

### **GTE Committee**

The GTE Committee exists by authority of the IRF Congress, and is responsible for advancing IRF Bylaw 5, Sections 9, 10 and 11. This includes developing and promoting programs and systems that may be used as a common standard for rafting guides, river safety personnel, and rafting operators.



As set out in IRF Bylaw 48(3), the GTE Committee is composed of 7 - 10 active GTE Assessors and Instructors who are appointed by the IRF Executive Committee. The GTE Committee Chair is a duly elected member of the IRF Board of Directors who is an active GTE Assessor. The GTE Committee is responsible for developing budgets and management systems necessary for the support and growth of the GTE System.

### **IRF Executive Committee**

The IRF Executive Committee appoints the members of the GTE Committee; reviews, comments, codifies and finalises its recommendations. The IRF Executive Committee is comprised of a maximum of five (5) members of the IRF Board of Directors who are familiar with GTE objectives, and includes the IRF President, the IRF Secretary General, and the GTE Committee Chair.

## **Certification Renewal Requirements**

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All GTE certifications expire three (3) years after issue. Renewal of certification(s) requires evidence to be submitted to GTE Admin that the requirements listed in the Assessment and Renewal Criteria have been met. This includes payment of the relevant renewal fee detailed in the Award Fee Structure.

Renewals made more than six (6) months after the certificate expiry date are required to pay an additional \$10.00 USD administrative fee for each year that the certification was expired.

There is no renewal fee for Instructors if all renewal requirements are completed within three (3) months after certificate expiration. An Instructor renewal fee of \$130.00 USD applies for late renewals. No Instructor will be renewed after three years of expiry - they must recertify through an assessment.

All GTE Instructor and Assessor renewals are managed centrally by GTE Admin.

# GTE Award Structure

## Raft

(Standard Raft / Cataract)

Designation	Code	Award & Level	Description
Guide	RG2	Raft Guide - Level 2	Certified to operate as a Raft Guide on rapids up to Class 2
	RG3	Raft Guide - Level 3	Certified to operate as a Raft Guide on rapids up to Class 3
	RG4	Raft Guide - Level 4	Certified to operate as a Raft Guide on rapids up to Class 4
	RG5	Raft Guide - Level 5	Certified to operate as a Raft Guide on rapids up to Class 5
Safety Raft Gear Boat Oar Raft	SR2	Safety Raft - Level 2	Certified to operate as a Safety Raft on rapids up to Class 2
	SR3	Safety Raft - Level 3	Certified to operate as a Safety Raft on rapids up to Class 3
	SR4	Safety Raft - Level 4	Certified to operate as a Safety Raft on rapids up to Class 4
	SR5	Safety Raft - Level 5	Certified to operate as a Safety Raft on rapids up to Class 5
Trip Leader Head Guide Senior Guide	RTL2	Raft Trip Leader - Level 2	Certified to operate as a Raft Trip Leader on rapids up to Class 2
	RTL3	Raft Trip Leader - Level 3	Certified to operate as a Raft Trip Leader on rapids up to Class 3
	RTL4	Raft Trip Leader - Level 4	Certified to operate as a Raft Trip Leader on rapids up to Class 4
	RTL5	Raft Trip Leader - Level 5	Certified to operate as a Raft Trip Leader on rapids up to Class 5
Instructor	RI3	Raft Instructor - Level 3	Certified to conduct GTE GTPs and Assessments for Raft Guide, Trip Leader, and Safety Candidates on rapids up to Class 3
	RI4	Raft Instructor - Level 4	Certified to conduct GTE GTPs and Assessments for Raft Guide, Trip Leader, and Safety Candidates on rapids up to Class 4
Assessor	A	Assessor	Certified to conduct GTE GTPs and Assessments for all Raft Award designations on rapids up to Class 4

## Raft Restriction Designators

Type	Code	Application	Description
Site Specific	SS	RG, SR, RTL, RI	Certified to operate ONLY at the site specified on the certification during normal flows / conditions
Provisional	P	RG, SR, RTL, RI	Has not fully met all award requirements. Certified ONLY when additional conditions are met

# GTE Award Structure

## Whitewater Guide

(Self-steered whitewater craft)

Designation	Code	Award & Level	Description
Guide Category A e.g. Inflatable kayaks, Inflatable canoes, Mini rafts, Packrafts, Sit-on-tops, Tubes	WGA2	Whitewater Guide Cat A - Level 2	Certified to operate as Whitewater Guide (Category A) on rapids up to Class 2
	WGA3	Whitewater Guide Cat A - Level 3	Certified to operate as Whitewater Guide (Category A) on rapids up to Class 3
Guide Category B e.g. all craft where person(s) using them are predominantly in the water. These craft are typically propelled using legs, feet, or flippers	WGB2	Whitewater Guide Cat B - Level 2	Certified to operate as Whitewater Guide (Category B) on rapids up to Class 2
	WGB3	Whitewater Guide Cat B - Level 3	Certified to operate as Whitewater Guide (Category B) on rapids up to Class 3
Instructor	WGI3	Whitewater Guide Instructor - Level 3	Certified to conduct GTE GTPs and Assessments for Whitewater Guide Category A and/or B candidates on rapids up to Class 3
Assessor	A	Assessor	Certified to conduct GTE GTPs and Assessments for all Whitewater Guide Award designations on rapids up to Class 4

## Whitewater Guide Restriction Designators

Type	Code	Application	Description
Site Specific	SS	WGA, WGB, WGI	Certified ONLY at the site specified on the certification during normal flows / conditions
Provisional	P	WGA, WGB, WGI	Has not fully met all award requirements. Certified ONLY when additional conditions are met

**NOTE:** All WG are certified to lead and provide safety on their trip provided the trip is at the level (or below) of their qualification. The Whitewater Guide designation is not issued for Level 4 or 5 (Class / Grade 4 or 5 water)

## GTE Award Structure

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### Safety Kayak

Designation	Code	Award & Level	Description
Safety Kayak	SK2	Safety Kayak - Level 2	Certified to operate as a Safety Kayak on rapids up to Class 2
	SK3	Safety Kayak - Level 3	Certified to operate as a Safety Kayak on rapids up to Class 3
	SK4	Safety Kayak - Level 4	Certified to operate as a Safety Kayak on rapids up to Class 4
	SK5	Safety Kayak - Level 5	Certified to operate as a Safety Kayak on rapids up to Class 5
Safety Kayak Instructor	SKI3	Safety Kayak Instructor - Level 3	Certified to conduct GTE Safety Kayak Assessments on rapids up to Class 3
	SKI4	Safety Kayak Instructor - Level 4	Certified to conduct GTE Assessments for Safety Kayak candidates on rapids up to Class 4

### Safety Kayak Restriction Designators

Type	Code	Application	Description
Site Specific	SS	SK, SKI	Certified ONLY at the site specified on the certification during normal flows / conditions
Provisional	P	SK, SKI	Has not fully met all award requirements. Certified ONLY when additional conditions are met

# GTE Award Structure

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## Event Safety

Designation	Code	Award & Level	Description
Guide	ES1	Assistant	Certificate of completion of a Basic Event Safety Workshop. May offer limited safety assistance at IRF Race Events
	ES2	Technician	Certified to operate as a member of the Event Safety Team at IRF A and B Level Race Events
	ES3	Group Leader	Certified to operate as a group leader of the Event Safety Team at IRF A and B Level Race Events
Instructor	ESI	Event Safety Instructor	Certified to conduct GTE Assessments for Event Safety Team Candidates on rapids up to Class 3

## Event Safety Restriction Designators

Type	Code	Application	Description
Site Specific	SS	ES, ESI	Certified ONLY at the site specified on the certification during normal flows / conditions
Provisional	P	ES, ESI	Has not fully met all award requirements. Certified ONLY when additional conditions are met

# GTE Assessment and Renewal Criteria

## Raft Guide

Code	Minimum training	Minimum experience	Assessment	Renewal (required every three years)
RG2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRF compliant Raft Guide GTP</li> <li>IRF compliant River Rescue Training module</li> <li>Standard First Aid with CPR</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 runs or 20 hours guiding a Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 2 or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Score 3 or more on guide assessment skill sheet</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Log a minimum of 10 runs on rivers rated at the relevant grade/class</li> <li>Hold a current Standard First Aid with CPR or higher</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF renewal fee</li> </ul>
RG3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 runs or 60 hours guiding a Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher</li> </ul>		
RG4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50 runs or 100 hours guiding a Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 4 or higher</li> </ul>		
RG5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a current RG4 certification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extensive experience as a RG on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examination and approval of the GTE Committee</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	

## Raft Trip Leader

Code	Minimum training	Minimum experience	Assessment	Renewal (required every three years)
RTL2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant GTE RG Certification or higher</li> <li>RTL training supervised by GTE Certified RTL or higher</li> <li>Advanced First Aid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50 runs or 100 hours on a variety of rivers rated as Class 2 or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Score 4 or more on guide assessment skill sheet at relevant level</li> <li>relevant level theory exam</li> <li>scenario assessment</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Log 20 runs or 40 hours as RG on the relevant Class of whitewater with at least 10 runs or 20 hours as RTL</li> <li>Hold current advanced First Aid certification or higher</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF renewal fee</li> </ul>
RTL3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>75 runs or 150 hours on a variety of rivers rated Class 3 or higher</li> </ul>		
RTL4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>125 runs or 250 hours on a variety of rivers rated Class 4 or higher</li> </ul>		
RTL5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current RTL4 certification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extensive experience as a RTL on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of the GTE Committee</li> </ul>	

# GTE Assessment and Renewal Criteria

## Safety Raft

Code	Minimum training	Minimum experience	Assessment	Renewal (required every three years)
SR2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRF compliant Raft Guide GTP</li> <li>IRF compliant Safety Raft training module</li> <li>IRF compliant River Rescue training module</li> <li>Standard First Aid with CPR or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 runs or 20 hours rowing an Oar Raft or Cataraft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 2 or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Score 3 or more on Safety Raft assessment skill sheet</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Log a minimum of 10 runs or 20 hours on rivers rated at the relevant grade/class</li> <li>Hold a current Standard First Aid with CPR or higher</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF renewal fee</li> </ul>
SR3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 runs or 60 hours rowing an Oar Raft or Cataraft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher</li> </ul>		
SR4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50 runs or 100 hours rowing an Oar Raft or Cataraft on rivers with rapids rated at Class 4 or higher</li> </ul>		
SR5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a current RS4 certification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examination and approval of the GTE Committee</li> </ul>	

## Whitewater Guide

Code	Minimum training	Minimum experience	Assessment	Renewal (required every three years)
WGA2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRF compliant Whitewater Guide GTP</li> <li>IRF compliant River Rescue Training module</li> <li>Standard First Aid certificate with CPR or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 runs or 20 hours guiding a Category A whitewater craft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 2 or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Score 3 or more on Whitewater Guide assessment skill sheet</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Log a minimum of 10 runs on rivers rated at the relevant grade/class</li> <li>Hold a current Standard First Aid certificate or higher</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF renewal fee</li> </ul>
WGA3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 runs or 60 hours guiding a Category A whitewater craft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher</li> </ul>		
WGB2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 runs or 20 hours guiding a Category B whitewater craft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 2 or higher</li> </ul>		
WGB3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 runs or 60 hours guiding a Category B whitewater craft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher</li> </ul>		

# GTE Assessment and Renewal Criteria

## Safety Kayak

Code	Minimum training	Minimum experience	Assessment	Renewal (required every three years)
SK2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRF compliant Safety Kayak training module</li> <li>IRF compliant Basic River Rescue Training module</li> <li>Standard First Aid with CPR or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 runs or 20 hours experience kayaking on a variety of rivers rated at Class 2 or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Score 3 or more on safety kayak assessment skill sheet</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Log a minimum 10 runs or 20 hours as a safety kayaker on rivers rated at the relevant grade/class</li> <li>Hold current Standard First Aid with CPR or higher</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF renewal fee</li> </ul>
SK3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 runs or 60 hours experience kayaking on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher</li> </ul>		
SK4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50 runs or 100 hours experience kayaking on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 4 or higher</li> </ul>		
SK5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current SK4 certification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extensive experience as a SK on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examination and approval of the GTE Committee</li> </ul>	

## Event Safety

Code	Minimum training	Minimum experience	Assessment	Renewal (required every three years)
ES1 Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRF compliant event rescue training module</li> <li>Standard First Aid with CPR or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in an IRF Event Safety training module</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrate basic knowledge and competency</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in relevant renewal workshop</li> <li>Hold current Standard First Aid with CPR or higher</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF renewal fee</li> </ul>
ES2 Technician		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in and pass IRF Event Safety training module</li> <li>Participate a minimum of 20 hours as member of a safety/rescue team at IRF recognised events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Score 3 or more on event rescue skill sheet</li> <li>Score 80% on Theory exam</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	
ES3 Group Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRF compliant advanced event rescue training module</li> <li>Advanced First Aid or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a current ES2 Certification</li> <li>Participate a minimum of 60 hours as member of a safety/rescue team at IRF recognised events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Score 4 or more on event rescue skill sheet</li> <li>Score 90% on Theory exam</li> <li>Pass event safety/rescue scenario assessment</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	



# GTE Assessment and Renewal Criteria

## Instructor

Code	Minimum training	Minimum experience	Assessment	Renewal (required every three years)
RI3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant TL Certification or higher</li> <li>Assist on one (1) IRF GTP and two (2) Guide/TL assessments</li> <li>Participate in GTE Instructor workshop</li> <li>Advanced First Aid or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a current RTL3 Certification</li> <li>Experience on a variety of different rivers in at least two countries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performance on two (2) GTP and/or Instructor workshops</li> <li>Delivery of a complete GTP and Guide/TL assessment</li> <li>Score 4 or more on guide &amp; TL assessment skill sheet for the relevant Level</li> <li>Relevant Level theory exam</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a minimum of two (2) relevant GTPs and two (2) relevant assessment</li> <li>Participate in a GTE Instructor assessment or participate in a GTE conference</li> <li>Be physically capable of demonstrating all skills being taught or assessed</li> <li>Hold a current Advanced First Aid Certificate or higher</li> </ul>
RI4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a current RTL4 Certification</li> <li>Experience on a variety of different rivers in at least two countries</li> </ul>		
WGI3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant RTL Certification or higher</li> <li>Assist on one (1) IRF GTP and two (2) Whitewater Guide assessments</li> <li>Participate in GTE Instructor workshop</li> <li>Advanced First Aid certificate or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a current RTL3 Certification</li> <li>Experience on a variety of different rivers in at least two countries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performance on two (2) GTP and/or Instructor workshops</li> <li>Delivery of a complete GTP and Whitewater Guide Assessment</li> <li>Score 4 or more on Whitewater Guide assessment skill sheet for relevant Level</li> <li>Relevant Level theory exam</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a minimum of two (2) relevant training modules and one (1) relevant assessment</li> <li>Participate in a GTE Instructor workshop or participate in a GTE conference</li> <li>Be physically capable of demonstrating all designation skills being taught or assessed</li> <li>Hold a current Advanced First Aid certificate or higher</li> </ul>
SKI3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant SK Certification or higher</li> <li>Assist on one (1) SK training modules &amp; two (2) SK assessments that are relevant to SKI certificate</li> <li>Participate in IRF GTE Instructor workshop</li> <li>Advanced First Aid certificate or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 runs or 200 hours at relevant Level</li> <li>Experience on a variety of different rivers in at least two countries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performance on two (2) SK training modules</li> <li>Delivery of a relevant Level SK training module &amp; SK assessment</li> <li>Score 4 or more on SK assessment skill sheet for the relevant Level</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	
SKI4				
ESI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold an Instructor Certification by an IRF approved River Rescue/Swiftwater Rescue certifying agency</li> <li>Hold a current ES3 Certification</li> <li>Advanced First Aid certificate or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Director of safety/rescue at a minimum of three (3) IRF recognised events</li> <li>Extensive rafting experience on a variety of rivers or event safety experience in at least two countries with rapids rated at Class 4 or higher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Score 4 or more on event rescue skill sheet</li> <li>relevant Level &amp; designation theory exam</li> <li>Be assessed conducting relevant designation SR training module</li> <li>or current Ri certificate with proven ESI experience</li> <li>Pay applicable IRF certification fee</li> </ul>	

# GTE Assessment and Renewal Criteria

## Assessor

Code	Minimum training	Minimum experience	Assessment	Renewal (required every three years)
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold an IRF Level 4 Instructor certification</li> <li>• Assist a minimum of three (3) IRF instructor workshops including assessments conducted by at least two (2) different Assessors</li> <li>• Participate in a GTE conference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have conducted at least 10 GTPs</li> <li>• Conducted at least 5 of any relevant training module workshops</li> <li>• Assessed 50 candidates</li> <li>• Participated on at least 5 relevant instructor workshops</li> <li>• International experience on multiple rivers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nomination by two (2) current Assessors</li> <li>• Dissertation related to GTE</li> <li>• Approval of majority of GTE Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a minimum of two (2) relevant Instructor workshops</li> <li>• Participate in the Instructor Conference at least once every three (3) years</li> <li>• Be physically capable of demonstrating all designation skills being taught or assessed</li> <li>• Hold a current Advanced First Aid certificate or higher</li> <li>• Demonstrable ongoing involvement in the positive promotion and growth of the IRF GTE System</li> </ul>
RgA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold current Assessor certification</li> <li>• Thorough understanding of the IRF GTE System award and administration process</li> <li>• High level of administration skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active GTE Committee member for 2 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nominated by the GTE Committee and approved by the IRF Executive Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval by the IRF Executive Committee</li> </ul>