



INTERNATIONAL RAFTING FEDERATION

Guide Training and Education Award System

From May 2017

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GTE Award Creation and Purpose

The Guide Training and Education (GTE) Award was created to provide commercial operators, industry organizations, national rafting federations, government regulators and other interested parties worldwide with a common standard for whitewater professionals. The GTE program is managed by the International Rafting Federation (IRF) through the GTE Committee under authority of section 47 of the IRF Bylaws. The program was first developed in 2001 and has been revised several times since that date. This document represents the latest revisions as of May 2017. Please check the IRF website at <http://www.internationalrafting.com/gte> to determine if a more recent revision has superseded this document.

Minimum Requirements

Award Candidates must:

- Be at least 18 years old. Candidates who are applying as a trainee (provisional) guide must be at least 16 years old.
- Be able to swim.
- Hold a current (unexpired) Standard First Aid Certificate (FAC) or equivalent with cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Trip Leaders, Instructors and Assessors must hold advanced certification such as Wilderness First Aid or WFR or Red Cross FAC level 2 etc. A copy of the certificate or card must be provided as proof, and must be valid for at least six (6) months beyond the assessment date.
- Maintain a logbook or record of each commercial river run, ideally signed by the Trip Leader or Operations Manager of the company. As proof of experience, relevant individual/ or company contact details should be included in the log. The logbook must be presented to the Instructor or Assessor as proof of experience before an assessment.
- Complete at least one familiarization 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 company/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

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

GUIDES AND TRIP LEADERS

Guide Assessment fee (includes card)	US\$60.00
Trip Leader Assessment fee (includes card)	US\$90.00
Guide or Trip Leader Renewal Fee (without card) ¹	US\$25.00
Renewals for certifications expired more than six (6) months	US\$25.00 (plus US\$10.00 for each year expired)
Replacement or renewal cards	US\$25.00

INSTRUCTORS

Instructor Assessment fee (includes card)	US\$150.00
Instructor Renewal Fee (without card) ¹	US\$0.00
Renewals for certifications expired more than six (6) months ²	US\$150.00 (plus US\$10.00 for each year expired)
Replacement or renewal cards	US\$25.00

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

²Must have attended a GTE Instructor Workshop or GTE Conference within the past three (3) years

Where candidates receive multiple assessments at one time they will be required to pay the higher fee for their assessment plus US\$15.00 for the second qualification.

For example:

Raft Guide AND Safety Kayaker Certification (one card) US\$60.00 + US\$15.00 = US\$75.00

Instructor & Assessor Fees

Instructors and Assessors will normally charge a fee to compensate for their time and expense in providing a GTE 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 will need to communicate directly with your Instructor or Assessor.

Definitions

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 is a prerequisite to obtaining any GTE certification. An approved GTP must, at minimum, cover the following instructional topics:

- a) Physical Skills - rafting techniques, crew training and management, emergency and rescue techniques
- b) Theoretical and Practical Knowledge – equipment (types and usage), safety and emergency procedures, river hydrology, leadership, signals

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, Inline Rafting 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.

Watercraft

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 specialized 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, and may also be used to transport equipment, stores and luggage

(gear boat). A designated Safety Raft cannot transport onboard passengers other than trained guide staff.

InLine Raft

An Inline Raft is generic term used to describe a variety of small inflatable watercraft such as inflatable kayaks, IKs, inflatable canoes, duckies, torpedoes, etc. These watercraft are designed so that all persons onboard must be positioned inline (sitting or kneeling one behind the other). InLine Rafts may be paddled by relatively unskilled persons on mild whitewater, or by a skilled person on difficult whitewater.

Safety Kayak

A Safety Kayak is a whitewater kayak that has been specifically designated as a platform for providing on-river safety coverage during a raft trip. A Safety Kayak must be of a type and design that is capable of performing swimmer rescue, 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

Certification Types

Guide

A person who has demonstrated that they have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to safely and competently control their watercraft on a whitewater river 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. 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 intends to guide using an oar-powered raft, must also obtain a Safety Rafter certificate in order to prove competency using an oar-powered raft.

Safety Rafter

A person who has demonstrated that they have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to safely and competently provide on-river safety support 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 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 Kayaker

A person who has demonstrated that they have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to safely and competently provide on-river safety support 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 Technician

A person who has demonstrated that they have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to provide specialized 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. EST's must hold a current standard first aid and CPR certification or higher.

Trip Leader

A person who has demonstrated that they have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to competently and safely lead a river trip. 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 competently and safely conduct an IRF GTE Workshop. GTE Instructors are the primary representatives of the IRF GTE program and are required to have exceptional interpersonal and river skills, and to represent the IRF with honor 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, be capable of demonstrating a variety of teaching methods and techniques for instructing and assessing GTE program participants, be capable of fully demonstrating all physical skills required of their students; and must have a current advanced first aid certificate or higher.

Assessor Instructor Trainer

GTE Assessors represent the highest level of the IRF GTE program and are primarily responsible for training and assessing GTE Instructor candidates, and keeping Instructors current with changes and updates through organized Instructor Workshops. Assessors must have an exceptionally high level of Instructor skill and knowledge, and maintain a current advanced first aid certificate or higher. Candidates for this award must possess a Level 4 GTE Instructor award; must submit an original work to the GTE Committee that demonstrates an exemplarity knowledge of guiding and/or compliments and improves upon the body of work used by the IRF GTE Program; 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 program, and may be called upon to help settle disputes among Instructors, serve on panels and committees, and contribute toward program 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 memorizing 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 — venue or river and section. Site Specific awards are also only valid when the conditions are equal to those that are normally encountered at the named site.

Provisional

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 only 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 only conduct a GTE workshop if a fully certified GTE Level 3 Raft Instructor (or higher) is assisting the workshop.

This status is given to candidates who have successfully complied with most of the requirements needed to obtain an Award, but has not yet complied with all requirements. 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 Workshop in order to demonstrate the remaining requirements.

Administrative Levels

Regional Assessor

GTE Regional Assessors are Assessors who have been appointed to have regional administrative control and 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 Award Program; must maintain regular contact with all GTE Instructors who reside or conduct Workshops 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 Program within their region is organised and managed with integrity, honor, and according to current procedures and requirements.

GTE Administration

The GTE Administration is a division of the IRF created by the IRF Board of Directors charged with

administering the day-to-day business of the GTE program. The GTE Admin is responsible for receiving and 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 of the IRF Bylaws. This includes developing and promoting programs and systems that may be used as a common standard for rafting guides, river safety personnel, and rafting tour operators.

The GTE Committee is composed of 7-10 active GTE Assessors and Instructors who are appointed by the IRF Executive Committee. The Head of the GTE Committee is to be a duly elected member(s) of the 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 GTE programs.

GTE Ethics Panel

The GTE Ethics Panel is the body charged with creating and enforcing ethical standards for the GTE Program. The Ethics Panel has the right to withdraw a person's certification or to refuse renewal if deemed necessary to maintain the standards and integrity of the program. The GTE Ethics Panel is comprised of a rotating pool of GTE Assessors and IRF Administration Officers.

IRF Executive Committee

The IRF Executive Committee appoints the members of the GTE Committee, guides its work, and 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 shall include the IRF President, the IRF Secretary General, and the GTE Committee Head.

Certification Renewal Requirements

All certifications expire three (3) years after issue. Renewal of certification requires proof that the requirements listed in the Assessment and Renewal Criteria chart have been satisfied, and payment of the relevant renewal fee shown in the Award Fee Structure chart.

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

There is no renewal fee for active Instructors if renewal requirements are completed within six (6) months after expiration. Inactive Instructors must have attended an Instructor Workshop or Conference within the past three (3) years.

GTE Award Structure

Raft			
Standard Raft - Cataract			
Designation	Code	Award & Level	Description
Raft 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 Rafter Gear Boat Oar Raft	SR2	Safety Rafter – Level 2	Certified to operate as a Safety Rafter on rapids up to Class 2.
	SR3	Safety Rafter – Level 3	Certified to operate as a Safety Rafter on rapids up to Class 3.
	SR4	Safety Rafter – Level 4	Certified to operate as a Safety Rafter on rapids up to Class 4.
	SR5	Safety Rafter – Level 5	Certified to operate as a Safety Rafter 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 Workshops for Raft Guide, Trip Leader, and Safety Candidates on rapids up to Class 3.
	RI4	Raft Instructor – Level 4	Certified to conduct GTE Workshops for Raft Guide, Trip Leader, and Safety Candidates on rapids up to Class 4.
Assessor Instructor Trainer	A	Assessor	Certified to conduct GTE workshops 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	Certified to operate as a Raft Guide ONLY at the site specified on the certification during normal flows/conditions.
Provisional	p	RG, SR, RTL, RI	Has not completed all award requirements. Certified ONLY when additional conditions are met.

GTE Award Structure

InLine Raft Inflatable kayak – Inflatable canoe			
Designation	Code	Award & Level	Description
Guide InLine Raft Guide Inflatable Kayak or Canoe Guide	iRG2	InLine Raft Guide – Level 2	Certified to operate as an InLine Raft Guide on rapids up to Class 2.
	iRG3	InLine Raft Guide – Level 3	Certified to operate as an InLine Raft Guide on rapids up to Class 3.
InLine Safety Rafters	iRS2	InLine Safety Rafters – Level 2	Certified to operate as an InLine Safety Rafters on rapids up to Class 2.
	iRS3	InLine Safety Rafters – Level 3	Certified to operate as an InLine Safety Rafters on rapids up to Class 3.
Trip Leader Head Guide Senior Guide	iRTL2	InLine Raft Trip Leader – Level 2	Certified to operate as an InLine Raft Trip Leader on rapids up to Class 2.
	iRTL3	InLine Raft Trip Leader – Level 3	Certified to operate as an InLine Safety Raft Trip Leader on rapids up to Class 3.
Instructor	iRI	InLine Raft Instructor	Certified to conduct GTE Workshops for InLine Raft Guide, Trip Leader, and Safety Candidates on rapids up to Class 3.
Assessor Instructor Trainer	A	Assessor	Certified to conduct GTE workshops and assessments for all InLine Raft award designations on rapids up to Class 4.

InLine Raft – Restriction Designators			
Type	Code	Application	Description
Site Specific	ss	iRG, iRS, iRTL	Certified ONLY at the site specified on the certification during normal flows/conditions.
Provisional	p	iRG, iRS, iRTL, iRI	Has not completed all award requirements. Certified ONLY when additional conditions are met.

GTE Award Structure

Safety Kayak			
Designation	Code	Award and Level	Description
Safety Kayak	SK2	Safety Kayak – Level 2	Certified to operate as a Safety Kayaker on rapids up to Class 2.
	SK3	Safety Kayak – Level 3	Certified to operate as a Safety Kayaker on rapids up to Class 3.
	SK4	Safety Kayak – Level 4	Certified to operate as a Safety Kayaker on rapids up to Class 4.
	SK5	Safety Kayak – Level 5	Certified to operate as a Safety Kayaker on rapids up to Class 5.
Safety Kayak Instructor	SKI3	Safety Kayak Instructor – Level 3	Certified to conduct GTE Safety Kayak Workshops on rapids up to Class 3.
	SKI4	Safety Kayak Instructor – Level 4	Certified to conduct GTE Workshops for Safety Kayak candidates on rapids up to Class 4.
Assessor Instructor Trainer	A	Assessor	Certified to conduct GTE workshops and assessments for all Safety Kayak award designations on rapids up to Class 4.

Safety Kayak – Restriction Designators			
Type	Code	Application	Description
Site Specific	ss	SK	Certified ONLY at the site specified on the certification during normal flows/conditions.
Provisional	p	SK, SKI	Has not completed all award requirements. Certified ONLY when additional conditions are met.

GTE Award Structure

Event Safety			
Designation	Code	Award & Level	Description
Event Safety Technician	EST1	Event Safety Technician – Basic	Certificate of completion of a Basic Event Safety Workshop. May offer limited safety assistance at IRF Race Events.
	EST2	Event Safety Technician – Standard	Certified to operate as a member of the Event Safety Team at IRF A and B Level Race Events.
	EST3	Event Safety Technician – Advanced	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 Workshops for Event Safety Team Candidates on rapids up to Class 3.
Assessor Instructor Trainer	ESA	Event Safety Assessor	Certified to conduct GTE Workshops and assessments for all Event Safety award designations.

Event Safety – Restriction Designators			
Type	Code	Application	Description
Site Specific	ss	EST	Certified ONLY at the site specified on the certification during normal flows/conditions.
Provisional	p	EST, ESI	Has not completed all award requirements. Certified ONLY when additional conditions are met.

Assessment and Renewal Criteria

Raft Guide				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
RG2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRF compliant Raft Guide GTP IRF compliant River Rescue Training module Standard 1st Aid with CPR 	10 runs or 20 hours guiding a Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 2 or higher	Score 3 or more on guide assessment skill sheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> log a minimum of 10 runs on rivers rated at the relevant grade/class hold a current Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher pay applicable IRF renewal fee
RG3		30 runs or 60 hours guiding a Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher		
RG4		50 runs or 100 hours guiding a Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 4 or higher		
RG5	Hold a current RG4 certification	Extensive experience as a RG on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 5	Examination and approval of the GTE Committee	

InLine Raft Guide				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
iRG2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRF compliant Raft Guide GTP IRF compliant River Rescue training module IRF compliant Inline Raft Guide training module Standard 1st Aid with CPR 	10 runs or 20 hours guiding an InLine Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 2 or higher	Score 3 or more on Inline Raft Guide assessment skill sheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> log a minimum of 10 runs or 20 hours on rivers rated at the relevant grade/class hold a current Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher pay applicable IRF renewal fee
iRG3		30 runs or 60 hours guiding an InLine Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher		

Safety Rafter				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
SR2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRF compliant Raft Guide GTP IRF compliant Safety Rafter training module IRF compliant River Rescue training module Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher 	10 runs or 20 hours rowing an Oar Raft or Cataraft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 2 or higher	Score 3 or more on Safety Rafter assessment skill sheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> log a minimum of 10 runs or 20 hours on rivers rated at the relevant grade/class hold a current Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher pay applicable IRF renewal fee
SR3		30 runs or 60 hours rowing an Oar Raft or Cataraft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher		
SR4		50 runs or 100 hours rowing an Oar Raft or Cataraft on rivers with rapids rated at Class 4 or higher		
SR5	Hold a current SR4 certification	Extensive experience as a SR on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 5	Examination and approval of the GTE Committee	

Assessment and Renewal Criteria

InLine Safety Rafter				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
iRS2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRF compliant Raft Guide GTP IRF compliant Inline Safety Rafter training module 	10 runs or 20 hours experience paddling an InLine Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 2 or higher	Score 3 or more on InLine Safety Rafter assessment skill sheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> log a minimum 10 runs or 20 hours as an InLine Guide or Inline Safety Rafter on rivers rated at the appropriate Class current Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher pay applicable IRF renewal fee
iRS3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRF compliant River Rescue Training module Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher 	30 runs or 60 hours experience paddling an InLine Raft on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher		

Safety Kayak				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
SK2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRF compliant Safety Kayak training module IRF compliant Basic River Rescue Training module Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher 	10 runs or 20 hours experience kayaking on a variety of rivers rated at Class 2 or higher	Score 3 or more on safety kayak assessment skill sheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> log a minimum 10 runs or 20 hours as a Safety Kayaker on rivers rated at the relevant grade/class current Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher pay applicable IRF renewal fee
SK3		30 runs or 60 hours experience kayaking on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 3 or higher		
SK4		30 runs or 60 hours experience kayaking on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 4 or higher		
SK5	Current SK4 certification	Extensive experience as a SK on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 5	Examination and approval of the GTE Committee	

Assessment and Renewal Criteria

Event Safety Technician				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
EST1 Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRF compliant event rescue training module Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher 	Attend an IRF EST training module	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate basic knowledge and competency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> attend relevant renewal workshop hold current Standard 1st Aid with CPR or higher pay applicable IRF renewal fee
EST2 Standard		Attend and pass IRF EST training module Participate a minimum of 20 hours as member of a safety/rescue team at IRF recognized events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score 3 or more on event rescue skill sheet Score 80% on Theory exam 	
ERT3 Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRF compliant advanced event rescue training module Advanced 1st Aid or higher 	Hold a current EST2 Certification Participate a minimum of 60 hours as member of a safety/rescue team at IRF recognized events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score 4 or more on event rescue skill sheet Score 90% on Theory exam Pass event safety/rescue scenario assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> attend relevant renewal workshop hold current Advanced 1st Aid or higher pay applicable IRF renewal fee

Assessment and Renewal Criteria

Raft Trip Leader				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
RTL2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant GTE RG Certification or higher • RTL training supervised by GTE Certified RTL or higher • Advanced 1st Aid 	50 runs or 100 hours on a variety of rivers rated as Class 2 or higher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Score 4 or more on guide assessment skill sheet at relevant level • relevant level theory exam • scenario assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • log 20 runs or 40 hours as RG on the relevant Class of whitewater with at least 10 runs or 20 hours as RTL • current advanced 1st Aid certification or higher • pay applicable IRF renewal fee
RTL3		75 runs or 150 hours on a variety of rivers rated Class 3 or higher		
RTL4		125 runs or 250 hours on a variety of rivers rated Class 4 or higher		
RTL5		Extensive experience as a RTL on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 5		

InLine Raft Trip Leader				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
iRTL2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant GTE iRG Certification or higher • 3 TL training trips supervised by relevant Level TL or higher • Advanced 1st Aid or higher 	50 runs or 100 hours on a variety of rivers rated Class 2 or above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Score 4 or more on guide assessment skill sheet at relevant Level • relevant Level theory exam • scenario assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • log 20 runs or 40 hours as iRG on the relevant Class of whitewater with at least 10 runs or 20 hours as iRTL • current advanced 1st Aid certification or higher • pay applicable IRF renewal fee
iRTL3		75 runs or 150 hours on a variety of rivers rated Class 3 or higher		

Assessment and Renewal Criteria

Instructor				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
RI3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant TL Certification or higher Assist on two (2) IRF GTP and one (1) Guide/TL scenario assessment Attend GTE Instructor workshop Advanced 1st Aid or higher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a current RTL3 Certification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance on two (2) GTP and/or Instructor workshops Delivery of a compete GTP and Guide/TL assessment workshop Score 4 or more on guide and TL assessment skill sheet for the relevant Level and designation relevant Level & designation theory exam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a minimum of three (3) relevant assessment workshops or GTPs Attend a GTE Instructor workshop or GTE conference Be physically capable of demonstrating all skills being taught or assessed Hold a current Advanced 1st Aid Certificate or higher
RI4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend GTE Instructor workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a current RTL4 Certification 		
iRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced 1st Aid or higher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a current iR3 Certification 		
SKI3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant SK Certification or higher Assist on 2 SK training modules & 1 SK assessment that are relevant to SKI certificate Attend IRF Instructor workshop Advanced 1st Aid or higher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 runs or 200 hours at relevant Level Experience on a variety of different rivers preferably in at least two countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance on two (2) SK training modules Delivery of a relevant Level SK training module & SK assessment Score 4 or more on SK assessment skill sheet for the relevant Level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a minimum of two (2) relevant training modules and one (1) relevant assessment workshop Attend a GTE Instructor workshop or GTE conference Be physically capable of demonstrating all designation skills being taught or assessed Hold a current Advanced 1st Aid Certificate or higher
SKI4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced 1st Aid or higher 			
ESI	<p>Hold an Instructor Certification by an IRF approved River Rescue/Swiftwater Rescue certifying agency</p> <p>+ Hold a current EST-3 Certification</p> <p>+ Advanced 1st Aid or higher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director of safety/rescue at a minimum of three (3) IRF recognized events Extensive rafting experience on a variety of rivers with rapids rated at Class 4 or higher preferably in at least two countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score 4 or more on event rescue skill sheet relevant Level & designation theory exam Be assessed conducting relevant designation RR training module 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be physically capable of demonstrating all designation skills being taught or assessed Hold a current Advanced 1st Aid Certificate or higher

Assessment and Renewal Criteria

Assessor (Instructor Trainer)				
Code	Minimum Training	Minimum Experience	Assessment	Renewal Required Every 3 years
RA	Hold an IRF Level 4 Instructor certification in the relevant designation + assist a minimum of 3 IRF instructor workshops including assessments conducted by at least 2 different Assessors in the relevant designation + Attended a GTE conference	Have conducted at least 10 GTP in the relevant designation + Conducted at least 5 of any relevant training module workshops + Assessed 50 candidates in the relevant designation + Participated on at least 5 relevant instructor workshops + International experience on multiple rivers	Nomination by 2 Assessors + Dissertation related to GTE + Approval of majority of GTE Committee	Conduct two relevant Instructor workshops or GTP + ongoing involvement in the promotion of the IRF AS
iRA				
KA				
ESA			All of the above requirements + nomination by 2 ESAs	
RgA	Hold current Assessor certification + Thorough understanding of the IRF GTE award and administration process + High level of administration skills	Active GTE Committee member for 2 years	Nominated by the GTE Committee and approved by the IRF Executive Committee	Approval by the IRF Executive Committee