



FASPFAQS (Alpine)

WHO IS FASP?

FASP (First Aid Ski Patrol) is a non-profit organization providing ski patrol services to Grouse Mountain (downhill/snowboarding) and Cypress/Hollyburn (cross-country, snowshoeing). We are a group of over 130 men, women and young adults who come from all walks of life. Our passion is skiing and we enjoy volunteering to help others. We have been an active organization for over 70 years—and we're just getting started.

WHAT DO I NEED TO JOIN?

Our members need to be strong skiers/boarders, able to handle all runs proficiently, and in any conditions. We're not looking for the next Rob Boyd or Nancy Greene, but rather people who are strong intermediate to advanced in their skills. Snowshoe patrollers need to have a good fitness level. We also require a minimum first aid standard of either OFA-3 or OEC, plus a valid CPR "C" ticket.

IS THERE A COST?

We make every effort to keep start-up costs to a minimum, but they exist nonetheless. In general, new members can expect to pay a minimum of \$75 to join FASP, as well as a \$100 per year (for 3 years on the rent to buy program) for a patrol jacket and fanny pack. Patrollers requiring first-aid training would be facing additional costs as you'll see below.

WHAT DO SKI PATROLLERS ACTUALLY DO?

More than anything, we spend time making the ski area safer, and skiers more aware, thus reducing the possibility for accidents. When accidents do happen, we're there to help casualties get inside and warm fast, and if necessary to medical aid. In between, we mingle with the public, provide support for the other on-hill staff, and sneak in a few runs when we can.

WHAT FIRST-AID CERTIFICATIONS DO YOU ACCEPT?

Our accepted standards are OFA-3 (the B.C. Worker's Compensation Board approved certification) and OEC (Outdoor Emergency Care). Applicants with a current OFA-3 or OEC certification simply need to attach their documentation to their application. Applicants with other certifications such as PCP or EMR may be accepted based on mountain approval. Patrollers are also required to hold a valid CPR 'C' ticket.



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I DON'T HAVE OFA-3 OR OEC. CAN I STILL APPLY?

No problem. As part of our organization's services, we offer annual OEC courses for new members. These 70 hour courses typically take place on weekends, during the months of October and November at our Grouse Mountain Training Centre. The cost to take the full course for FASP members is \$450. The OEC standard requires that a refresher course be taken once a year. These refreshers, offered by FASP during September and October, cover 1/3 of the total curriculum and are currently \$125 to FASP members. If you hold a different certification such as Wilderness First-Aid, you may be able to attend a "challenge" OEC course currently priced at \$350.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

For our weekend patrol, members are required to complete approximately 15 duty shifts over the course of the season. Our teams are organized to patrol either 2 successive Saturdays (then 1 weekend off), 2 successive Sundays (then 1 weekend off), or 1 full weekend (then 2 weekends off). This means there are options for people who have pre-existing weekend commitments. Shifts rotate from morning openings (6:45 am – 3:30 pm) to closing (2:30 – 11:00pm). We also have a mid-week patrol, whose members are required to complete approximately 16 shifts over the season. This team is comprised of experienced returning patrollers.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

You'll have a chance to give back to the community, enjoy the outdoors, improve your skiing and first-aid abilities, and most of all and enjoy the camaraderie of a great group of people. Not to mention discounted skiing across B.C., and guaranteed FUN!

I'M A GOOD ORGANIZER. CAN FASP USE MY SKILLS?

Absolutely! We're always looking for people who want to take a leadership role in our organization. There is much to do, and every hand helps. Whether you can assist with fund-raising, recruiting, training, or throwing a coat of paint on our cabin, we'll always welcome and appreciate the extra help.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

That's the easiest part. Just complete the online application form and use the email button on the form to send it to our Volunteer Patrol Recruiter at recruit@fasp.bc.ca. Alternatively, you can print the form, fill it out, and mail it to us at PO Box 2651, Vancouver, B.C., V6B 2W8. If you have any questions, email them to recruit@fasp.bc.ca and we will answer any questions that you may have for us. We interview applicants and generally have hiring decisions made by late-October.