Level 2 Teaching & People Skills Assessment Assessor Outline

Purpose: This guide explains what to expect during the PSIA-AASI Level 2 Teaching & People Skills Assessment.

NOTE: This is a guideline. You may adjust timing, terrain, group flow, and schedule based on weather, snow conditions, lift operations, safety, group size, and unforeseen circumstances. The recommended group size is 5 Candidates; when needed, groups should generally remain between 4–6 Candidates to support fair, accurate assessment. The assessment should reflect real teaching: Candidates assess, plan, communicate, adapt, and manage learning in a changing mountain environment.

Assessor Responsibilities

Before the Assessment

Review, and assume responsibility for understanding:

- The National Standards, Performance Guides, and Assessment Forms
- The Guidelines for Assessment Environments
- The Guidelines for Paired Assessors
- Event logistics, including pre- meeting time and location
- Candidate communications
- Any additional guidance provided by event leadership

During the Assessment

You are expected to:

- Follow the PSIA-AASI Member Code of Conduct
- Follow the Guidelines for Assessment Environments
- Follow the Guidelines for Paired Assessors
- Record assessment data throughout the day
- Use brief conversations with co-Assessors on snow to maintain alignment
- Save longer calibration discussions for appropriate breaks or post-assessment review

Process

Assessor Meeting

Before meeting Candidates, confirm:

Group Logistics

- Group assignments
- Number of Candidates in each group
- Schedule and flow of the day
- Operational adjustments based on group size, terrain, weather, lift operations, or other event logistics

Terrain and Activity

- Select Intermediate Zone terrain, including easier black terrain and more challenging green terrain
- Use groomed and ungroomed terrain when possible
- Confirm Focus Areas fit the venue, discipline, terrain, conditions, and safety needs of the day

On-Snow Logistics

- Warm-up plan
- Estimated Teaching/Learning Segment start time
- Lift and terrain movement plan

Results Process

- Time
- Location
- Delivery process

<u>Candidate Meeting</u>

During this time, Assessors should:

- Introduce themselves, share emergency contacts, confirm groups, and have Candidates introduce themselves.
- Review key logistics: ski area info, lunch, daily procedures, and results.
- Explain the 6-point scale; averages are not rounded.
- Review the assessment format, timing, lunch plan, and end-of-day plan. and possible adjustments for weather, terrain, lifts, group size, safety, or operations.
- Review that timing, terrain, and flow may be adjusted for group size, weather, snow conditions, lift operations, safety, or other operational needs. Explain that when adjustments are needed, each Candidate will have an equitable opportunity to demonstrate the learning outcomes.
- Remind Candidates:
    - Teaching/Learning Segment: not a pre-set progression; goal is to improve performance and understanding within the focus area.
        - Treat peers as students: observe, ask, identify needs, adapt.
        - Peers may not match the target level, but can provide real goals, questions, feedback, and performance cues. Candidates should be encouraged to give actionable feedback to their peers when appropriate and/or needed.
    - Student role: assessed on professionalism and self-management, not technical performance.
    - Leading role: technical understanding and skiing/riding choices affect relevance, clarity, and learning quality.

Schedule of Activities*

*Times are examples only and may be adjusted based on group size, terrain, lift operations, weather, safety, and event logistics. The following example assumes all Candidates use the full 40 minutes

8:45 AM	Candidate Meeting
9:00 – 9:30 AM	Warm Up
9:40 – 10:20	On-Snow Teaching/Learning Segment 1
10:30 – 11:10	On-Snow Teaching/Learning Segment 2
11:20 – 12:00 PM	On-Snow Teaching/Learning Segment 3
12:05 – 12:35	Lunch
12:45 – 1:25	On-Snow Teaching/Learning Segment 4
1:35 – 2:15	On-Snow Teaching/Learning Segment 5
2:25 – 3:05 PM	On-Snow Teaching/Learning Segment 6 (if needed)
4:00 PM	Results and verbal feedback

Assessment Format

In the Teaching/Learning Segment, the Candidate is expected to create and manage a learning environment in the Intermediate Zone, including easier black terrain and more challenging green terrain, for fellow Candidates who will serve as their students. Each Candidate will receive an Intermediate Zone Focus Area representing common student goals/requests prior to their respective Teaching/Learning Segment. The goal is to improve their students' performance and understanding within the assigned Focus Area. Typically focus areas will be given to a Candidate prior to loading the lift. If doing multiple teaching segments without a lift ride between each Candidate, the next Candidate receives his/her focus area while the previous Candidate is having his/her follow up with the assessor(s).

The Teaching/Learning Segment will range from 30–40 minutes in length, including:

- Student (peer) assessment and planning
    - Assess students' performance and understanding
    - Identify motivations, goals, and needs
    - Develop an initial plan
- Teaching/Learning activities and reflection
- Lift rides or terrain transitions
- Cross Country Candidates should be prepared to teach classic and skate in two, separate segments (one 25 minute and one 10 minute)

Assessors will:

- Observe the entire segment without interruption unless safety becomes a concern.
- Ask follow-up questions to clarify observations, confirm understanding, and gather evidence related to the National Standards after each Candidate's segment.
- Observe candidates serving as students to assess on professionalism and self-management, not technical skiing/riding performance.

Focus Areas

Alpine Focus Areas (In Basic Parallel)	SB Focus Areas	XC Focus Areas	Telemark Focus Areas
Steep groomers	Short radius turns	Downhills and speed control	Steep groomers
Introducing or improving carving	Carving	Timing	Carving
Variable conditions (bumps, trees, ungroomed, etc.)	Variable conditions (trees, ungroomed, steeps, etc.)	Climbing	Off-piste/bumps
Managing terrain changes	Jumps	Managing terrain changes	
Pole usage	Boxes	Pole usage	Pole usage
Conditions of the day (ice, powder, ungroomed, etc.)	Conditions of the day (ice, powder, ungroomed, etc.)	Conditions of the day (ice, powder, ungroomed, etc.)	Conditions of the day (ice, powder, ungroomed etc.)
Speed management	Bumps/moguls	Efficiency	
		Racing and fitness	

Learning Outcomes to Be Assessed by

Instructor Decisions & Behavior (Assessed throughout the day)

- Professionalism and Self-Management: Contributes to a professional environment by managing their behaviors and emotions in response to others.

People Skills (Assessed while teaching)

- Communication: Engages in and adapts verbal and non-verbal, two-way communication with individuals and subsets of the group.
- Relationships with Others: Adapts to the motivations and emotions of individuals and to the interpersonal dynamics within the group, to promote trust.

Teaching Skills (Assessed while teaching)

- Assess and Plan: Plans learning outcomes and progressive learning experiences and adapts to the changing needs of intermediate students.
- Implement: Facilitates learning experiences and adapts them as necessary to guide students toward agreed-upon outcomes and engage them in the process.
- Reflect/Review: Helps students recognize, reflect upon, and assess experiences to apply understanding and performance changes to desired outcomes.

Assessment Results

- Results are delivered after each module.
- Candidates may receive in-person feedback on the day of the module only.

- At larger events, Assessors should coordinate feedback times and locations.

Assessment Forms

- Complete all assessment forms accurately.
- Use the SBI (Situation-Behavior-Impact) model when documenting observations.
- Ensure comments support scoring decisions and provide useful developmental feedback.
- Verify final results align with scoring and Assessor consensus.
- Assessment forms, with results and written feedback, are emailed to Candidates within 24 hours after each module.