

Paddling and Rowing Sports—Master Progression Chart

Type of Craft and Water	Grade Level/ Minimum Age	Participant-to- Instructor Ratio	Instructor/Expert Certification <i>(With multiple choices, only one is required)</i>
Rowboats			
Rowboat Flat, no current	D, B, J, C, S, A Daisies only with adult in boat	12:1 plus 1 watcher/helper	Instructor completes Girl Scouts small craft safety training or equivalent
Scull or shell Flat, no current	C, S, A who are strong swimmers	Varies; consult instructor or coach	U.S. Rowing Coach, Level 1 or higher; or equivalent
Corcl Boat			
Flat, no current	B, J, C, S, A	12:1 plus 1 watcher/helper	American Red Cross (ARC) Lifeguarding with Waterfront Module; or equivalent
Canoeing			
Flat, near shore, no current	D, B, J, C, S, A <i>Daisies permitted only with an adult in their canoe, unless with an ACA accredited camp in compliance with ACA standards</i>	6:1, or 12:1 with qualified assistant <i>(ACA accredited camps adhere to all ACA standards for Daisies in canoes)</i>	American Canoe Association (ACA) Canoe Level 1 Instructor or higher; or ACA Paddle Sports Safety Facilitator in canoeing; Small Craft Safety Certification-Canoeing; or ARC Lifeguarding with Waterfront Module; or an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials.
Class I	J, C, S, A	6:1, or 12:1 with qualified assistant	ACA River Canoeing Level 2 Instructor or higher; or equivalent
Class II	C, S, A	6:1, or 12:1 with qualified assistant	ACA River Canoeing Level 3 Instructor or higher; or equivalent
Class III	C, S, A	6:1, or 12:1 with qualified assistant	ACA Whitewater Canoeing Instructor, Level 4 or higher; or equivalent
Trips on Class II–III	C, S, A	Varies; ask outfitter	Licensed professional guide or instructor who is provided by an outfitter
Kayaking			
Flat, near shore, lakes, no current	B, J, C, S, A Daisies not permitted	5:1, or 10:1 with qualified assistant	ACA Kayaking Level 1 Instructor or higher; or ACA Paddle Sports Safety Facilitator-Kayaking, Small Craft Safety Certification-Kayaking; or completion of boat-education paddle sports course for your state; or ARC Lifeguarding with Waterfront Module; or equivalent
River, Class I	J, C, S, A	5:1, or 10:1 with qualified assistant	ACA River Kayaking Level 2 Instructor or higher; or equivalent. Use helmets when they are recommended or provided.
River, Class II	C, S, A	5:1, or 10:1 with qualified assistant	ACA River Kayaking Level 3 Instructor or higher; or equivalent. Use helmets when they are recommended or provided.

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River, Class III	C, S, A	5:1, or 10:1 with qualified assistant	ACA River Kayaking Instructor Level 4 or higher; or equivalent. Use helmets when they are recommended or provided.
Sea/surf	C, S, A	5:1, or 10:1 with qualified assistant	ACA Coastal Surf or Coastal Kayaking Level 2 Instructor or higher; or equivalent
Standup Paddle Boarding			
Flat, near shore, no current	J, C, S, A	5:1, or 10:1 with qualified assistant	American Canoe Association (ACA) SUP Instructor Level 1 or higher, ACA Paddle Sports Safety Facilitator-SUP, or completed boat-education paddle sports course for your state, American Red Cross Lifeguarding with Waterfront Module, or equivalent. ACA SUP Yoga endorsement or equivalent for yoga on flat water.
Coastal	C, S, A	5:1, or 10:1 with qualified assistant	ACA Coastal SUP Instructor Level 3, or equivalent
Ocean surf	C, S, A	5:1, or 10:1 with qualified assistant	ACA Ocean Surf SUP Instructor Level 3 or higher, or equivalent
Class I-II	C, S, A	5:1, or 10:1 with qualified assistant	ACA River SUP Instructor 3 or higher, or equivalent
Trips	C, S, A	Varies; ask outfitter	Licensed professional guide or instructor, provided by an outfitter
Class III-V	Not permitted	N/A	N/A
Whitewater Rafting			
Whitewater rafting day trips Class I-II	B, J, C, S, A	6:1, or 12:1 with qualified assistant	American Canoe Association (ACA) Rafting Level 4 Instructor or higher; or International Rafting Federation (IRF) Guide Certification; or equivalent
Whitewater rafting day trips Class I-III	J, C, S, A	Varies; ask outfitter	Licensed professional river guide provided by an outfitter
Whitewater rafting day trips Class I-IV	C, S, A	Varies; ask outfitter	Licensed professional river guide provided by an outfitter. NOTE: Members always wear helmets for Class IV
Whitewater trips Class I-IV	C, S, A	Varies; ask outfitter	Licensed professional river guide provided by an outfitter. NOTE: Members always wear helmets for Class IV.