

Type of Craft and Water	Grade Level	Participant to Instructor Ratio	Instructor/Expert Certification <i>With multiple choices, only <u>one</u> is required.</i>
Rowing	Grade Level	Participant to Instructor Ratio	Instructor/Expert Certification <i>With multiple choices, only <u>one</u> is required.</i>
Rowboat: Protected from wind, waves, and boat traffic, flat, no current	D, B, J, C, S, A <i>Daisies only with adult in boat</i>	12:1 plus 1 watcher/helper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> American Canoe Association (ACA) Paddlesports Safety Facilitator for that craft OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials
Scull or Shell: Protected from wind, waves, and boat traffic, flat, no current	C, S, A <i>who are strong swimmers</i>	Varies, consult instructor or coach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. Rowing Coach Level 1 or higher Demonstrated equivalent experience in line with above credentials
Corcl	Grade Level	Participant to Instructor Ratio	Instructor/Expert Certification <i>With multiple choices, only <u>one</u> is required.</i>
Protected from wind, waves, and boat traffic, flat, no current	B, J, C, S, A	12:1 plus 1 watcher/helper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> American Red Cross (ARC) Lifeguarding with Waterfront Module OR ACA Paddlesports Safety Facilitator for that craft OR instructor/expert with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with above credentials
Canoeing	Grade Level	Participant to Instructor Ratio	Instructor/Expert Certification <i>With multiple choices, only <u>one</u> is required.</i>
Flat water: Protected from wind, waves, and outside boat traffic, with current less than 0.5 knots, and within swimming distance of shore	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 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 12:2. <i>ACA accredited camps adhere to all ACA standards for Daisies in canoes.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> American Canoe Association (ACA) Paddlesports Safety Facilitator certification in canoeing AND completion of a flat-water canoe safety and rescue skills course OR ACA Level 1: Introduction to Canoeing Instructor or higher OR Girl Scouts small craft safety training when canoeing on GSNI Camp Dean's pond only. OR ARC Lifeguarding with Waterfront Module OR instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with above credentials
River Class I: Moving water rivers including Class I sections	J, C, S, A	6 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACA Paddlesports Safety Facilitator in canoeing and completion of a Level 2: Essentials of River Canoeing Skills Course

		qualified assistant, ratio 12:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OR ACA River Canoeing Day Trip Leading Skills Assessment • OR ACA River Canoeing Level 2: Essentials of River Canoeing Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with above credentials
River Class II: Whitewater rivers including Class II sections, where limited maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	C, S, A	6 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 12:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA River Canoe Day Trip Leader Assessment • OR ACA River Canoeing Level 3 Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with above credentials • Helmets required
River Class III: Sections of rivers rated class II-III, where precise maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	C, S, A	6 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 12:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA River Canoe Day Trip Leader Assessment AND Level 4: Swiftwater Rescue Skills Assessment • OR Level 4: Whitewater Canoeing Skills Assessment AND Level 4: Swiftwater Rescue Skills Assessment • OR ACA Level 4: Whitewater Canoeing Instructor Level 4 or higher • OR an instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with above credentials • Helmets required
River Trips on Class II-III	C, S, A	Varies, ask outfitter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed professional guide or instructor who is provided by an outfitter • Helmets required
Kayaking	Grade Level	Participant to Instructor Ratio	Instructor/Expert Certification <i>With multiple choices, only <u>one</u> is required.</i>
Flat water: Protected from wind, waves, and outside heavy boat traffic, with current less than 0.5 knots, and within swimming distance of shore	B, J, C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Canoe Association (ACA) Paddlesports Safety Facilitator certification in kayaking and completion of a Flatwater Kayak Safety and Rescue skills course • OR ACA Level 1: Introduction to Kayaking Instructor or higher • OR Girl Scouts small craft safety training when kayaking on GSNI Camp Dean's pond only. • OR ARC Lifeguarding with Waterfront Module • OR Instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials
River Class I: Moving water rivers including class I sections	J, C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Paddlesports Safety Facilitator in Kayaking and completion of a Level 2: Essentials of River Kayaking skills course • OR ACA River Kayaking Day Trip Leading Skills Assessment

		assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OR ACA Level 2: Essentials of River Kayaking instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • Use helmets when they are recommended or provided
River Class II: Whitewater rivers including class II sections, where limited maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2 t	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA River Kayak Day Trip Leader Assessment and Level 3: River Safety and Rescue Skills Assessment • OR Level 3: River Kayaking Skills Assessment and Level 3: River Safety and Rescue Skills Assessment • OR ACA Level 3: River Kayaking Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • Helmets required
River Class III: Sections of rivers rated class II-III, where maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA River Kayak Day Trip Leader Assessment and Level 4: Swiftwater Rescue Skills Assessment • OR Level 4: Whitewater Kayaking Skills Assessment and Level 4: Swiftwater Rescue Skills Assessment • OR ACA Level 4: Whitewater Kayaking Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • Helmets required
River Trips on Class II-III	C, S, A	Varies; mandated by outfitter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed professional guide OR licensed professional instructor who is provided by an outfitter • Helmets required
Coastal Kayak Touring: Calm, protected water with constant access to safe landing, within half mile from shore; wind less than 10 knots, waves less than 1 foot, current less than 1 knot, no surf	C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Level 2: Essentials of Kayak Touring Trip Leader Assessment • OR ACA Level 2: Kayak Touring Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials
Sea/Surf: Waterways with constant access to safe landing, within 1.5 mile	C, S, A	Varies; mandated by outfitter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed professional guide • OR licensed professional instructor who is provided by an outfitter

from shore; wind 10–15 knots, chop 1–2 foot, surf 1–2 foot, current 0–2 knots			
River Class IV–V	Not Permitted	N/A	N/A
Sea/Surf	C, S, A	5:1 or 10:1 with qualified assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Coastal Surf or Coastal Kayaking Level 2 Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials
Packrafting	Grade Level	Participant to Instructor Ratio	Instructor/Expert Certification <i>With multiple choices, only <u>one</u> is required.</i>
Flat water: Protected from wind, waves, and outside boat traffic, with current less than 0.5 knots, and within swimming distance of shore	B, J, C, S, A <i>Daisies not permitted</i>	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Canoe Association (ACA) Paddlesports Safety Facilitator certification in kayaking and completion of a Flatwater Kayak Safety and Rescue Skills course • OR ACA Level 1: Introduction to Packrafting Instructor or higher • OR American Red Cross (ARC) Lifeguarding with Waterfront Module • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials
River Class I: Moving water rivers including class I sections	J, C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Paddlesports Safety Facilitator in Kayaking and completion of a Level 2: Essentials of River Packrafting skills course • OR ACA River Kayaking Day Trip Leading Skills Assessment • OR ACA Level 2: Essentials of River Packrafting instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • Use helmets when they are recommended or provided
River Class II: Whitewater rivers including class II sections, where limited maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA River Kayak Day Trip Leader Assessment and Level 3: River Safety and Rescue Skills Assessment • OR Level 3: River Packrafting Skills Assessment and Level 3: River Safety and Rescue Skills Assessment • OR ACA Level 3: River Packrafting Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helmets required
River Class III: Sections of rivers rated class II–III, where maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA River Kayak Day Trip Leader Assessment and Level 4: Swiftwater Rescue Skills Assessment • OR Level 4: Whitewater Packrafting Skills Assessment and Level 4: Swiftwater Rescue Skills Assessment • OR ACA Level 4: Whitewater Packrafting Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • Helmets required
Packraft touring: Calm, protected water with constant access to safe landing and within 0.5 nm from shore; winds less than 10 knots; waves less than 1 foot; current less than 1 knot; no surf-shore break (less than 1 ft); not applicable to crashing surf zone	C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Level 2: Essentials of Kayak Touring Trip Leader Assessment • OR ACA Level 2: Kayak Touring Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials
Trips in Coastal/Sea/Surf Waterways: Lakes or coastal waters with potential areas of exposure to mild wind and wave conditions, with constant access to safe landing and within 1.5 nm from shore; 10–15 knot winds; 1–2 foot waves (chop); 1–2 foot surf; 1–2 knots of current	C, S, A	Varies, mandated by outfitter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed professional guide • OR licensed professional instructor who is provided by an outfitter
Stand-Up Paddleboarding	Grade Level	Participant to Instructor Ratio	Instructor/Expert Certification <i>With multiple choices, only <u>one</u> is required.</i>
Flat water: Protected from wind, waves, and	J, C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Canoe Association (ACA) Paddlesports Safety Facilitator certification in

outside heavy boat traffic, with current less than 0.5 knots, and within swimming distance of shore		additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<p>SUP and completion of ACA Level 1: Introduction to SUP Skills course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OR ACA SUP Day Trip Leader Assessment • OR Level 1 Introduction to SUP Instructor or higher • Completed boat education paddle sports course for your state • OR an instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • OR American Red Cross Lifeguarding with Waterfront Module • OR Demonstrated equivalent experience in line with above credentials
River Class I: Moving water rivers including class I sections	C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA SUP Day Trip Leading Skills Assessment AND ACA Level 3: River SUP Skills Course, • OR ACA Level 3: River SUP instructor or higher, • OR an instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • Use helmets when they are recommended or provided • Leashes not required, but if worn must be on a quick-release belt
River Class II: Whitewater rivers including class II sections, where limited maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Level 4: Whitewater SUP Assessment and Level 4: Swiftwater Rescue Skills Course • OR ACA Level 4: Whitewater SUP instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • Helmets and quick-release leashes required
Coastal SUP / Touring: Calm, protected water with constant access to safe landing, within half mile from shore; wind less than 10 knots; waves less than 1 foot; current less than 1 knot; no surf	C, S, A	5 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 10:2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA SUP Trip Leader Assessment • OR ACA Level 2: Essentials of SUP Instructor or higher • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • Helmets not required • Leashes required (straight or coil)
Trips in Coastal/ Sea/Surf Waterways: Lakes or coastal waters with potential areas of exposure to mild wind and wave	C, S, A	Varies, mandated by outfitter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed professional guide • OR licensed professional instructor who is provided by an outfitter

conditions, with constant access to safe landing and within 1.5 nm from shore; 10–15 knot winds; 1–2 foot waves; 1–2 foot surf; 1–2 knots of current			
River Class III–V	Not Permitted	N/A	N/A
Whitewater Rafting	Grade Level	Participant to Instructor Ratio	Instructor/Expert Certification <i>With multiple choices, only <u>one</u> is required.</i>
River Class I: Moving water rivers including class I sections	B, J, C, S, A	6 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 12:2.	In accordance with the type of raft being used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Level 2: Essentials of Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Skills Course • OR ACA Level 2: Essentials of Rafting—Oar (or higher) Skills Course • OR Level 2: Essentials of Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Guide Certification • OR Level 2: Essentials of Rafting—Oar (or higher) Guide Certification • OR Level 2: Essentials of Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Instructor Certification • OR Level 2: Essentials of Rafting—Oar (or higher) Instructor Certification • OR an instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials
River Class II: Whitewater rivers including class II sections, where limited maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	B, J, C, S, A	6 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 12:2	In accordance with the type of raft being used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Level 3: Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Skills Course • OR ACA Level 3: Rafting—Oar (or higher) Skills Course • OR Level 3: Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Guide Certification • OR Level 3: Rafting—Oar (or higher) Guide Certification • OR Level 3: Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Instructor Certification • OR Level 3: Rafting—Oar (or higher) Instructor Certification • OR an instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials
River Class III: Sections of rivers rated class II–III, where precise maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	J, C, S, A	6 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 12:2	In accordance with the type of raft being used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Level 4: Whitewater Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Skills Course • OR ACA Level 4: Whitewater Rafting—Oar (or higher) Skills Course • OR Level 4: Whitewater Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Guide Certification

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OR Level 4: Whitewater Rafting—Oar (or higher) Guide Certification • OR Level 4: Whitewater Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Instructor Certification • OR Level 4: Whitewater Rafting—Oar (or higher) Instructor Certification • OR an instructor with demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • OR Licensed professional whitewater rafting guide provided by an outfitter • Helmets required
River Class IV: Sections of rivers rated class III–IV, where precise maneuvering in current is required to avoid obstacles	C, S, A	6 participants: 1 trip leader; with an additional qualified assistant, ratio 12:2.	<p>In accordance with the type of raft being used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACA Level 5: Advanced Whitewater Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Skills Course • OR ACA Level 4: Advanced Whitewater Rafting—Oar (or higher) Skills Course • OR Level 5: Advanced Whitewater Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Guide Certification • OR Level 5: Advanced Whitewater Rafting—Oar (or higher) Guide Certification • OR Level 5: Advanced Whitewater Rafting—Paddle (or higher) Instructor Certification • OR Level 5: Advanced Whitewater Rafting—Oar (or higher) Instructor Certification • OR an instructor with the demonstrated equivalent experience in line with these credentials • OR Licensed professional whitewater rafting guide provided by an outfitter • Helmets required
Trips: Class I–IV	C, S, A	Varies, mandated by outfitter.	Licensed professional whitewater rafting guide provided by an outfitter
River Class V–VI	Not Permitted	N/A	N/A