

Trip Staff Training Program Pipeline

1. Attend Interest Meeting: The Interest Meeting is an opportunity to meet current Trip Staff, and learn what it takes to become a part of the trip leading staff with the Adventure Trip Program.

2. Essentials Workshops/Academic Courses: Complete an approved Recreation (REC) course, or participate in the four Essentials Workshops. These **free** workshops meet two times each for an hour and a half each - pick which times work best for you. The workshop schedule is located on the Trip Staff Training website. You can sign up for Essentials Workshops at the Outdoor Center or online. These four workshops have been developed to provide insight to the rich history and key philosophies important to understanding your role as an outdoor leader, about how groups work together (or not) and how people learn, and about the role of risk in our programs and how we address adverse situations in adverse settings.

Workshops include: Introduction to ATP and History, Philosophy & Roles in Outdoor Education, Risk Management in the Wilderness Setting and Group Dynamics.

3. Participation: Sign up for two ATP day trips, or go on one overnight ATP trip as a participant. On these trips, you'll learn what Outdoor Recreation is all about and see how ATP Trip Staff work together. The Adventure Trip Program calendar is available on our website. Participation in certain Recreation (REC) courses may also fulfill this requirement.

4. Certifications: The following certifications are required to work on Adventure Trips: Basic First Aid/CPR/AED and Texas State Van Driver Approval (Trip Trainees and up), Wilderness First Aid (Assistant Trip Leaders), Wilderness First Responder (Trip Leaders).

5. Trip Trainee: After completing the requirements listed above, you'll be ready to become a Trip Trainee. Trip Trainees go on Adventure trips **at no cost**, and they are responsible for working with ATP Trip Staff to plan trip logistics, manage safety, and teach outdoor skills to participants. Once you are a Trainee, you will receive emails from Outdoor Recreation that let you know about opportunities to participate on these trips.

6. Trip Staff: Depending on your skill level, you will have the opportunity to join the ATP Trip Staff after participating on enough trips to become an outdoor expert and completing the necessary "Skills Check Offs" and certifications. This process takes a different amount of time for each Trainee. You will go through a "Skills Check Off" session in the field, in which a current ATP staff person will make sure you have all of the necessary skills to lead trips. Trip Trainees will also be invited onto all Extended Training Trips throughout the year. Extended Training Trips are the ideal opportunity to complete a "Skills Check Off" session.

7. Extras Workshops: You're finally in the field working as a Trip Apprentice or Assistant Trip Leader, or maybe you've been a Trip Leader for three semesters but want to freshen up your skills; then Extras Workshops are just the thing for you. This is what we like to call our ATP Professional Development. These Workshops are not required, but are a great way to keep your skills current and even learn to fun new skills. Topics vary each semester from navigation skills, rope rug making, backcountry cooking, wilderness medicine refreshers, resume writing, and more. Extras Workshops can be found here at the Trip Staff Training website.