

NZOIA™ Cave Instructor Level 1

Scope and Syllabus

Scope

Cave Instructor Level 1 Profile

The NZOIA Cave Instructor Level 1 is able to:

- Plan and prepare caving experiences which include short single vertical pitches
- Lead and manage groups in caving experiences
- Apply effective safety management
- Instruct the caving skills required for positive, educational and safe experiences
- Prepare and deliver teaching sessions
- Role model accepted environmental practices
- Provide interpretive information about sites visited

Instructional Scope

The holder of this qualification can organise and instruct groups in horizontal caves where short vertical single pitches are expected and active streamways may be encountered. Short vertical pitches include only those where there is a clear line of sight and voice communication between the top and bottom person at all times.

The Cave 1 instructor can rig and instruct the use of ladders, abseiling and belaying techniques to negotiate vertical pitches. Deep and moving water management techniques can be used to negotiate the active streamways.

Pre-requisites

The NZOIA Cave Instructor Level 1 will:

- Be a current member of NZOIA
- Be 20 years old or over
- Hold a current First Aid Certificate of at least 2 days duration
- Have the following experience as evidenced in a log book:
 - No less than 40 days caving experience, which will include:
 - no less than 20 days personal caving in a minimum of 5 different caves
 - no less than 10 days instructing/guiding caving trips, including at least 5 instructional session

A caving day is considered to be at least four hours underground

The pre-requisite experience requirements are minimums, extra days are recommended so that a broad range of experience is gained. Experience will include co-instructing or working as an assistant instructor.

Revalidation

The NZOIA Cave Instructor Level 1 qualification remains valid as long as the holder completes NZOIA's revalidation and registration requirements.

Progressing to Instructor Level 2 qualifications

As the NZOIA Cave Instructor Level 1 gains more experience, they can progress to gaining the Level 2 qualification. The steps they can follow include:

- Gaining the experience outlined in the NZOIA Cave Instructor Level 2 pre-requisites
- Attending an approved NZOIA Level 2 training course
- Working with an NZOIA Level 2 Cave Instructor

SYLLABUS

Technical Competence

1. Describe caving history and ethics
2. Demonstrate the care and correct use of caving gear and equipment
3. Demonstrate land and underground navigation
4. Demonstrate personal caving techniques
5. Construct a variety of workable, fail safe rigging systems
6. Construct an abseil system
7. Demonstrate efficient and safe belaying technique
8. Demonstrate simple vertical rescue skills

The Environment

9. Apply weather knowledge
10. Role model accepted environmental practices
11. Demonstrate and/or describe cultural and environmental knowledge and interpretation of caving sites visited

Group Management and Leadership

12. Plan and prepare a caving experience including at least one short vertical pitch
13. Lead and manage a group during a caving experience which includes at least one short vertical pitch
14. Demonstrate effective safety management

Instruction

15. Instruct the caving skills required for a positive, educational and safe experience