

# SKI PATROL



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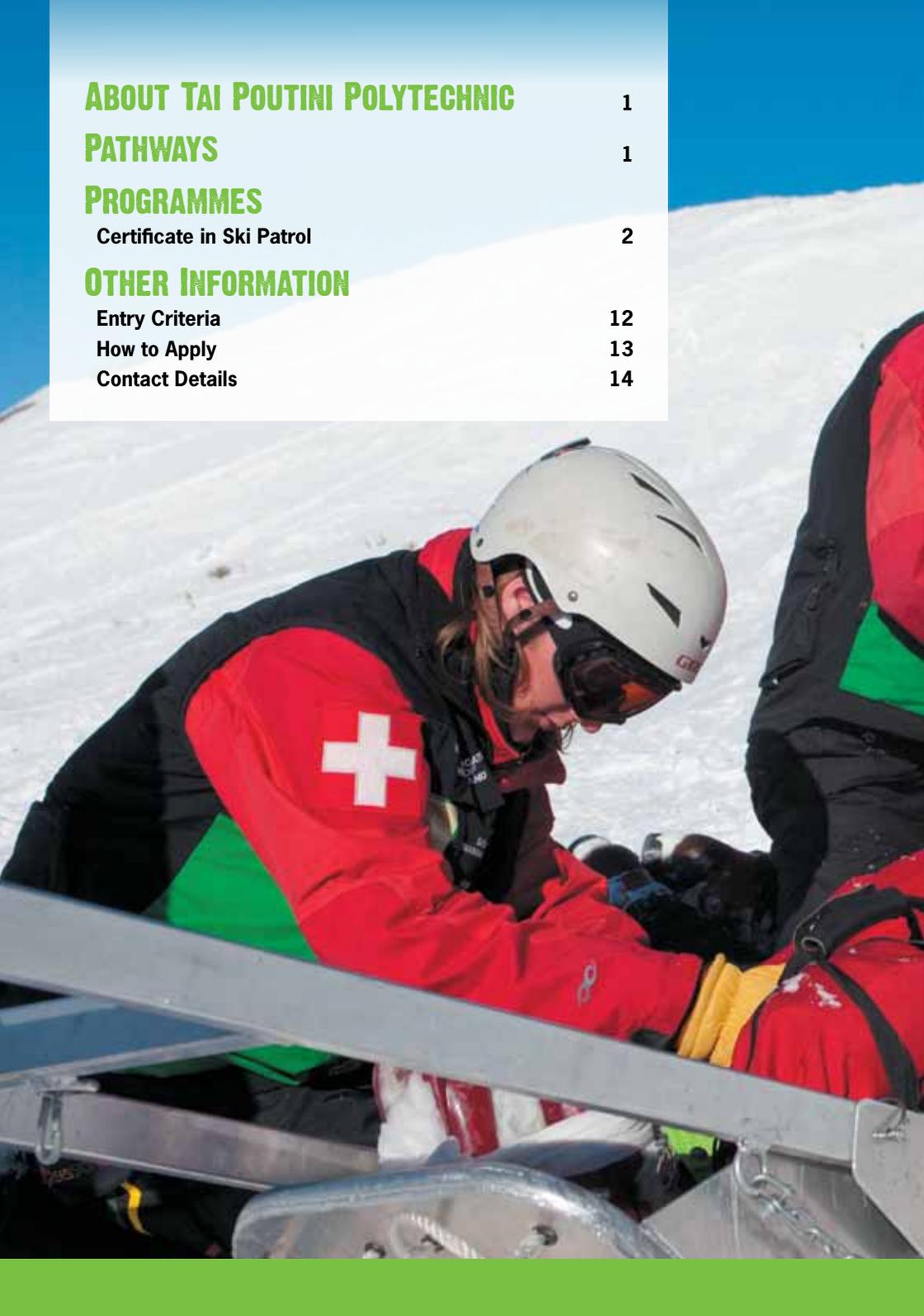
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## ABOUT TAI POUTINI POLYTECHNIC (TPP)

At TPP we're serious about education. Our tutors are all experts in their field, have excellent industry connections and are passionate about teaching. They want you to learn the skills you need to succeed.

We offer a wide range of practical programmes, with a focus on vocational education and applied skills. All TPP programmes have NZQA approval and are designed to give you a strong foundation in your chosen career.

Tai Poutini Polytechnic has campuses in Auckland, Christchurch, Wanaka, Westport, Greymouth and Reefton, and offers industry training throughout NZ.

Applying to enrol as a student at Tai Poutini Polytechnic is simple. If you require more information or wish to speak directly with a tutor please email us at [info@tpp.ac.nz](mailto:info@tpp.ac.nz) or call 0800 800 411.

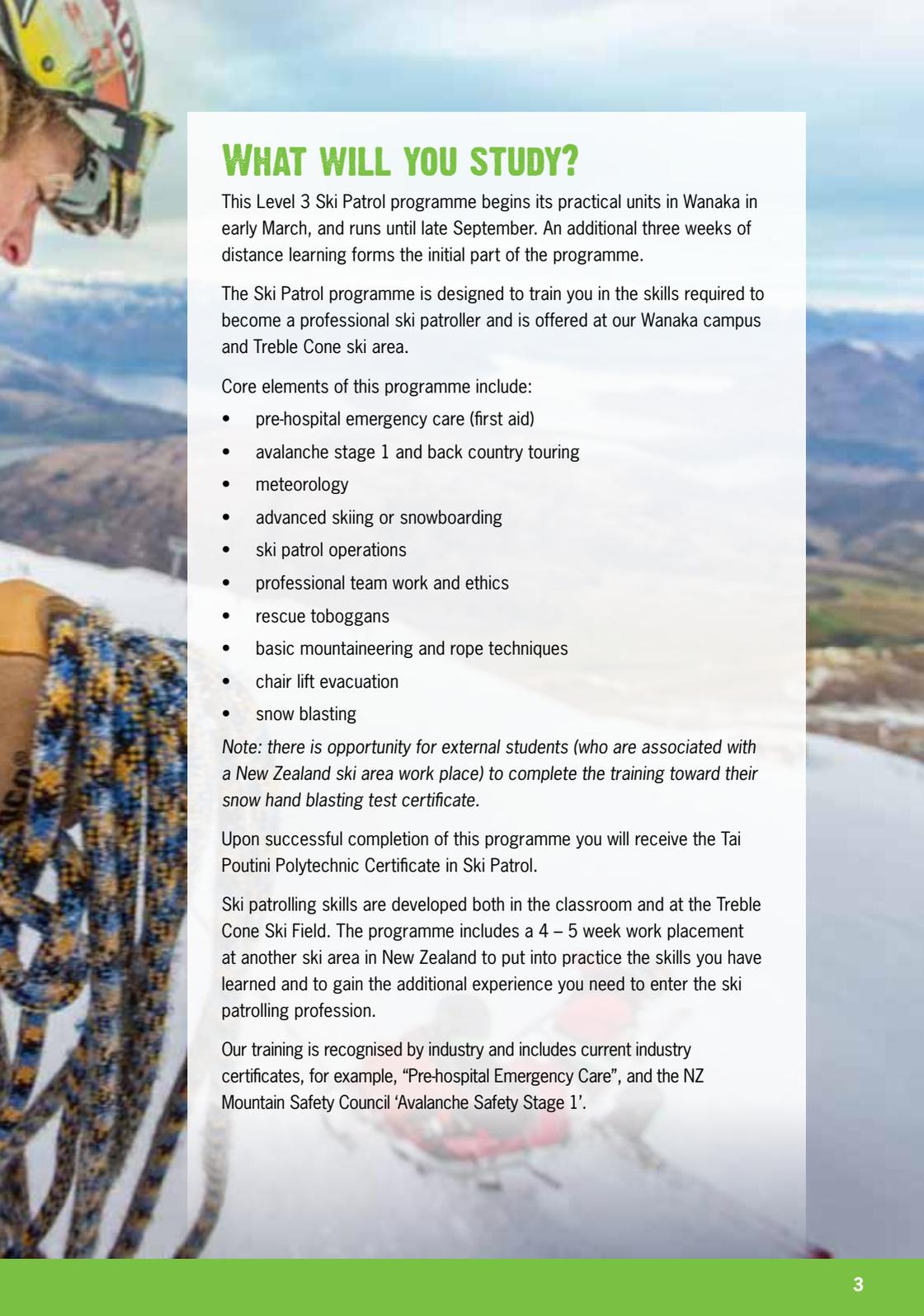
# CERTIFICATE IN SKI PATROL

Level	3
Credit Value	120
Award	Tai Poutini Polytechnic Certificate
Location	Wanaka
Method of Study	Full Time, 29 Weeks <sup>†</sup>
Start Date	16 February 2015
End Date	18 September 2015
Domestic Total Cost	\$6,868 (2015 cost)
Contact	Karen Boserio

<sup>†</sup> Excluding Holidays

Notes:

1. Domestic and International Total Cost - include text books, first aid and snow safety kits, uniform vest, programme teaching equipment, field costs (except food), Treble Cone season's pass, field transport, ski lessons, NZQA and exam fees.
2. Additional costs - during the 4 – 5 week work placement section of the programme, both travel and additional or alternative accommodation will need to be covered by students posted outside of Wanaka. Although most Wanaka landlords want to let their accommodation until the end of the ski season, students should consider this additional cost before locking in the duration of their Wanaka based lease. Wanaka accommodation will still be needed for the last week of programme.



## WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

This Level 3 Ski Patrol programme begins its practical units in Wanaka in early March, and runs until late September. An additional three weeks of distance learning forms the initial part of the programme.

The Ski Patrol programme is designed to train you in the skills required to become a professional ski patroller and is offered at our Wanaka campus and Treble Cone ski area.

Core elements of this programme include:

- pre-hospital emergency care (first aid)
- avalanche stage 1 and back country touring
- meteorology
- advanced skiing or snowboarding
- ski patrol operations
- professional team work and ethics
- rescue toboggans
- basic mountaineering and rope techniques
- chair lift evacuation
- snow blasting

*Note: there is opportunity for external students (who are associated with a New Zealand ski area work place) to complete the training toward their snow hand blasting test certificate.*

Upon successful completion of this programme you will receive the Tai Poutini Polytechnic Certificate in Ski Patrol.

Ski patrolling skills are developed both in the classroom and at the Treble Cone Ski Field. The programme includes a 4 – 5 week work placement at another ski area in New Zealand to put into practice the skills you have learned and to gain the additional experience you need to enter the ski patrolling profession.

Our training is recognised by industry and includes current industry certificates, for example, “Pre-hospital Emergency Care”, and the NZ Mountain Safety Council ‘Avalanche Safety Stage 1’.

## Course Descriptions

All courses are unit standard based and have been designed through feedback from the New Zealand Ski Patrol, Emergency Care and Snow Safety Industries. With the exception of snow blasting, all integrate with each other for the duration of the programme, so cannot be studied and assessed as separate modules.

### Pre-Hospital Emergency Care (PHEC)

This course includes the following NZQA unit standards (nationally recognized PHEC certificate):

- 25411 Demonstrate knowledge of and use an Automated External Defibrillator
- 25412 Provide basic pre-hospital emergency care
- 14473 Move and position patients in preparation for transportation

Additional PHEC training includes the use of rescue toboggans as well as additional in depth first aid training requested by the ski patrol industry.

### Avalanche Hazard Management

This course includes Stage 1 Avalanche (accredited by the NZ Mountain Safety Council), is comparable to the Canadian Stage 1 Avalanche and covers:

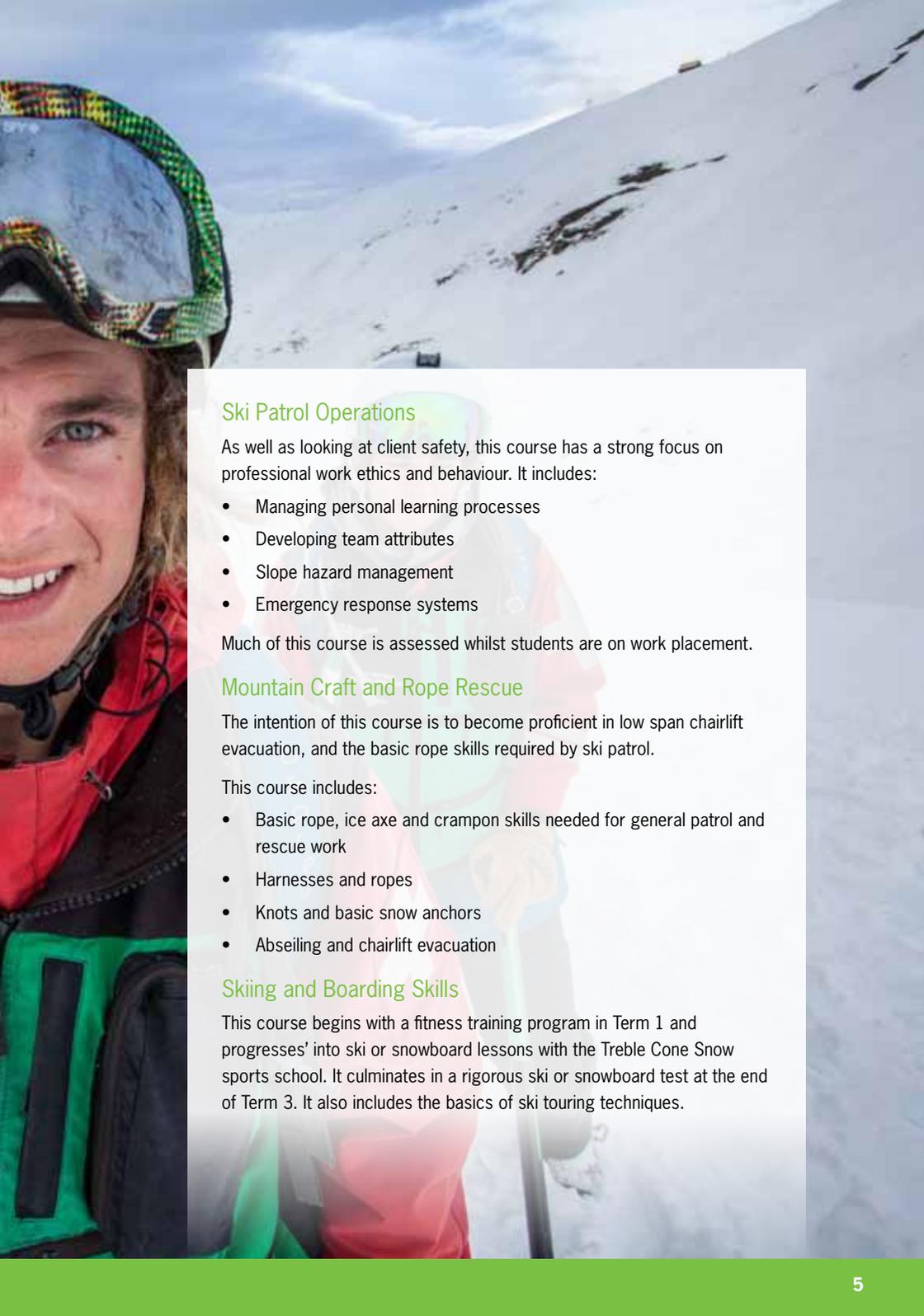
- Weather and snow pack observations
- Avalanche phenomena
- Snow stability and metamorphism
- Avalanche terrain and back country safe travel techniques
- Avalanche rescue
- Snow blasting for Avalanche control

### Meteorology

This course begins in the distance learning section of the programme and includes:

- Interpreting weather maps
- Taking weather observations
- Making safety decisions based on weather





### Ski Patrol Operations

As well as looking at client safety, this course has a strong focus on professional work ethics and behaviour. It includes:

- Managing personal learning processes
- Developing team attributes
- Slope hazard management
- Emergency response systems

Much of this course is assessed whilst students are on work placement.

### Mountain Craft and Rope Rescue

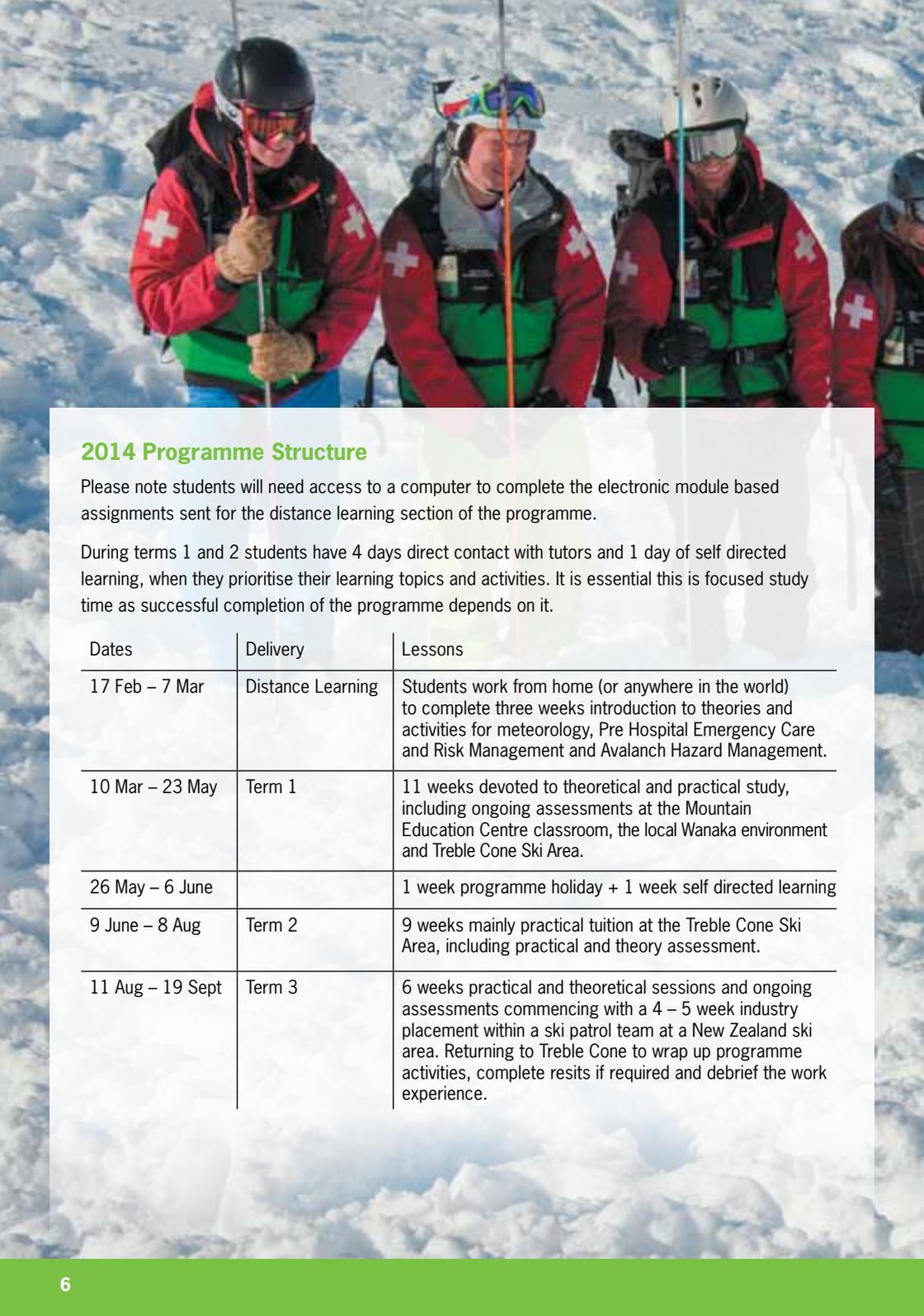
The intention of this course is to become proficient in low span chairlift evacuation, and the basic rope skills required by ski patrol.

This course includes:

- Basic rope, ice axe and crampon skills needed for general patrol and rescue work
- Harnesses and ropes
- Knots and basic snow anchors
- Abseiling and chairlift evacuation

### Skiing and Boarding Skills

This course begins with a fitness training program in Term 1 and progresses into ski or snowboard lessons with the Treble Cone Snow sports school. It culminates in a rigorous ski or snowboard test at the end of Term 3. It also includes the basics of ski touring techniques.



## 2014 Programme Structure

Please note students will need access to a computer to complete the electronic module based assignments sent for the distance learning section of the programme.

During terms 1 and 2 students have 4 days direct contact with tutors and 1 day of self directed learning, when they prioritise their learning topics and activities. It is essential this is focused study time as successful completion of the programme depends on it.

Dates	Delivery	Lessons
17 Feb – 7 Mar	Distance Learning	Students work from home (or anywhere in the world) to complete three weeks introduction to theories and activities for meteorology, Pre Hospital Emergency Care and Risk Management and Avalanch Hazard Management.
10 Mar – 23 May	Term 1	11 weeks devoted to theoretical and practical study, including ongoing assessments at the Mountain Education Centre classroom, the local Wanaka environment and Treble Cone Ski Area.
26 May – 6 June		1 week programme holiday + 1 week self directed learning
9 June – 8 Aug	Term 2	9 weeks mainly practical tuition at the Treble Cone Ski Area, including practical and theory assessment.
11 Aug – 19 Sept	Term 3	6 weeks practical and theoretical sessions and ongoing assessments commencing with a 4 – 5 week industry placement within a ski patrol team at a New Zealand ski area. Returning to Treble Cone to wrap up programme activities, complete resits if required and debrief the work experience.



## EQUIPMENT

This is intended as a guide only. A complete equipment list will be included in your enrolment pack.

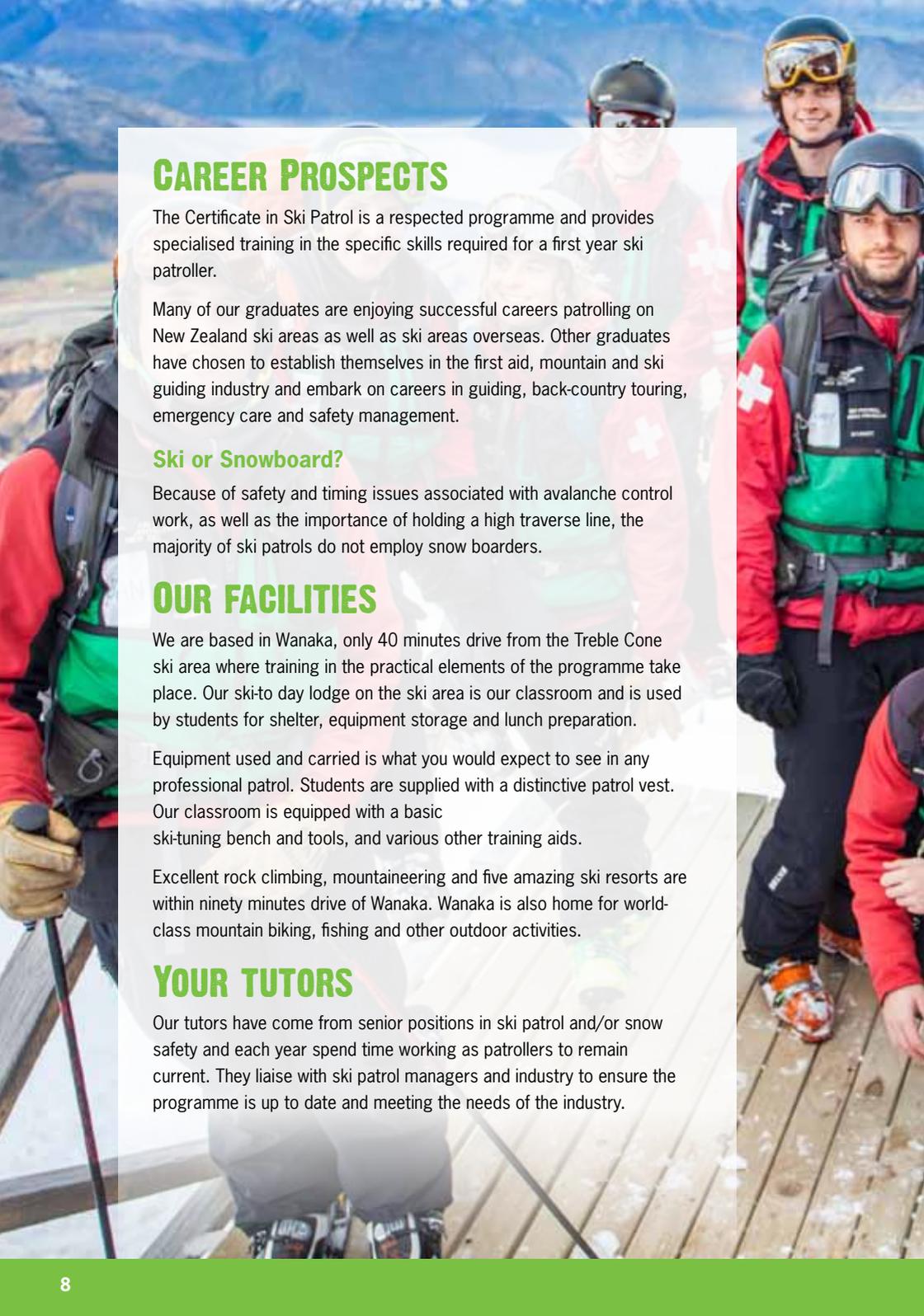
Personal equipment costs will vary depending on what you already own.

You are required to provide the following essential equipment:

- Skis or snowboard and bindings
- Boots
- Poles
- Avalanche transceiver
- Avalanche probe and snow shovel
- Sturdy alpine or tramping boots
- Ski touring equipment
- Snow shoes or split boards (snow boarders only)
- Skins (for skiers or users of split boards)
- Clothing suitable for the New Zealand mountain environment

Tai Poutini Polytechnic supplies the use of following equipment for training:

- A wide range of first aid equipment
- Ice axes
- Ropes
- Belay devices and karabiners
- Climbing helmets
- Reference texts
- Rescue toboggans
- Crampons
- Climbing and industrial harnesses
- Snow and weather analysis equipment



## CAREER PROSPECTS

The Certificate in Ski Patrol is a respected programme and provides specialised training in the specific skills required for a first year ski patroller.

Many of our graduates are enjoying successful careers patrolling on New Zealand ski areas as well as ski areas overseas. Other graduates have chosen to establish themselves in the first aid, mountain and ski guiding industry and embark on careers in guiding, back-country touring, emergency care and safety management.

### Ski or Snowboard?

Because of safety and timing issues associated with avalanche control work, as well as the importance of holding a high traverse line, the majority of ski patrols do not employ snow boarders.

## OUR FACILITIES

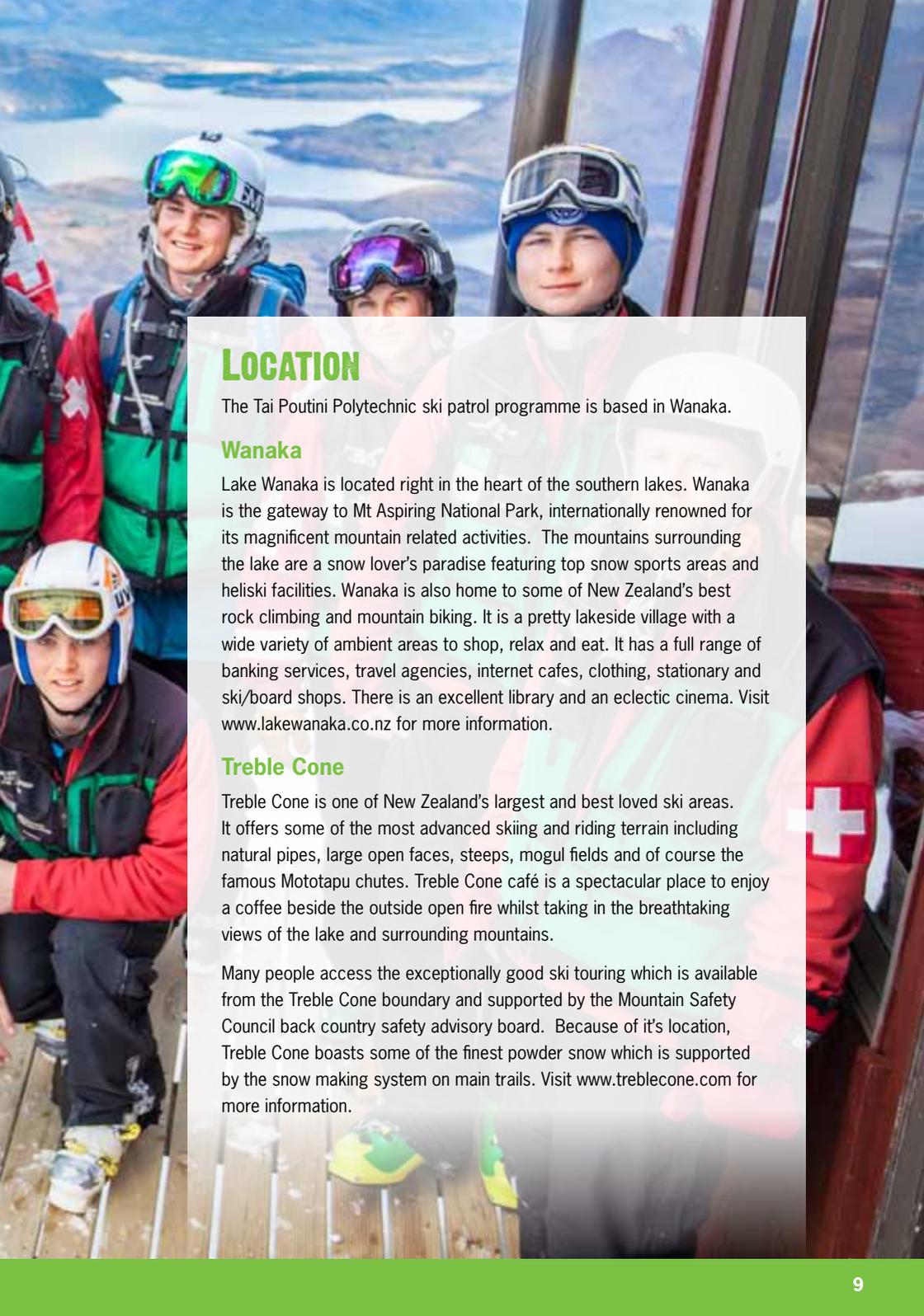
We are based in Wanaka, only 40 minutes drive from the Treble Cone ski area where training in the practical elements of the programme take place. Our ski-to day lodge on the ski area is our classroom and is used by students for shelter, equipment storage and lunch preparation.

Equipment used and carried is what you would expect to see in any professional patrol. Students are supplied with a distinctive patrol vest. Our classroom is equipped with a basic ski-tuning bench and tools, and various other training aids.

Excellent rock climbing, mountaineering and five amazing ski resorts are within ninety minutes drive of Wanaka. Wanaka is also home for world-class mountain biking, fishing and other outdoor activities.

## YOUR TUTORS

Our tutors have come from senior positions in ski patrol and/or snow safety and each year spend time working as patrollers to remain current. They liaise with ski patrol managers and industry to ensure the programme is up to date and meeting the needs of the industry.



## LOCATION

The Tai Poutini Polytechnic ski patrol programme is based in Wanaka.

### Wanaka

Lake Wanaka is located right in the heart of the southern lakes. Wanaka is the gateway to Mt Aspiring National Park, internationally renowned for its magnificent mountain related activities. The mountains surrounding the lake are a snow lover's paradise featuring top snow sports areas and heliski facilities. Wanaka is also home to some of New Zealand's best rock climbing and mountain biking. It is a pretty lakeside village with a wide variety of ambient areas to shop, relax and eat. It has a full range of banking services, travel agencies, internet cafes, clothing, stationary and ski/board shops. There is an excellent library and an eclectic cinema. Visit [www.lakewanaka.co.nz](http://www.lakewanaka.co.nz) for more information.

### Treble Cone

Treble Cone is one of New Zealand's largest and best loved ski areas. It offers some of the most advanced skiing and riding terrain including natural pipes, large open faces, steeps, mogul fields and of course the famous Mototapu chutes. Treble Cone café is a spectacular place to enjoy a coffee beside the outside open fire whilst taking in the breathtaking views of the lake and surrounding mountains.

Many people access the exceptionally good ski touring which is available from the Treble Cone boundary and supported by the Mountain Safety Council back country safety advisory board. Because of it's location, Treble Cone boasts some of the finest powder snow which is supported by the snow making system on main trails. Visit [www.treblecone.com](http://www.treblecone.com) for more information.

## ACCOMMODATION

A range of accommodation is available in Wanaka including rental housing, private board, hostel/backpacker and five camping grounds.

Some students arrange accommodation as early as possible in order to secure a place. Students who don't secure their accommodation before arriving in Wanaka typically spend a week in a motor camp before they get sorted. Please complete the "Sharing of Contact Information" section of the ski patrol questionnaire and return if you are interested in sharing accommodation with other Ski Patrol students.

### Rental housing

Rental housing ranges in price from about \$250.00–\$450.00 per week, depending on the number of bedrooms. This equates to \$80.00–\$150.00 per person. The houses are 2-4 bedrooms, furnished or unfurnished.

### Private board

Private board often includes meals, power and phone. Prices vary and are usually advertised in "The Messenger", contact details on the following page.

### Camping Ground

There are several camping grounds in the Wanaka area with a range of cabins, tents and caravan sites.

### Hostel/Backpacker

Seven accommodation houses offer this service in Wanaka. Typically facilities include single or twin share rooms, kitchen and common room. The average rate is \$25.00–\$35.00/night. Cheaper rates are negotiable for long term stayers.

## Wanaka Accommodation Option Contact details:

Wanaka Holiday Park	03 443 7883	Bullock Creek Lodge	03 443 1265
Wanaka Backpackers	03 443 7837	Outlet Motor Camp	03 443 7478
Wanaka YHA	03 443 7405	Lake Hawea Holiday Park	03 443 1767
Matterhorn Park Backpackers	03 443 1119	Pleasant Lodge Holiday Park	03 443 7360

## Real Estate Agents that may also be able to help you find accommodation:

Harcourts	03 443 7829	Locations	03 443 6901
Kindley	03 443 8016	LJ Hooker	03 443 7191
Wanaka Reservation	03 443 1559		

The list above is not exhaustive and an energetic search will uncover more contacts and leads.

Advertisements can also be placed in Wanaka's local newsletter 'The Messenger'.

Contact: PrintIt on 03 443 7804, this can also be read online at [www.printit.co.nz](http://www.printit.co.nz).

Satellite towns of Hawea, Albertown and Luggate also offer potential rental properties within 10 minutes driving time of Wanaka.

## EMPLOYER PROFILE

### Anna Easthope – Cardrona Ski Field

Cardrona Skifield is so impressed with the graduates that Tai Poutini Polytechnic's Ski Patrol School sends them for work experience they employ the vast majority of them.

Cardrona's Patrol Co-ordinator Anna Easthope says she is always looking for mature, fit and professional ski patrollers and that is exactly what they get with the Ski Patrol School students.

"It's a win win for us and the students. The students are always keen and come to us with all the entry level skill boxes ticked, from there they just need a bit of mileage," she says.

Most of the ski patrollers that work at Cardrona are graduates of the Ski Patrol School and as an employer Anna says she if she has to pick between two candidates she is more likely to take someone who has a Certificate in Ski Patrol.

## STUDENT PROFILE

"I graduated from Ski Patrol in 2011 and am now heading to the States and Canada to find work as a ski patroller there.

The programme was really good and gives you very strong background knowledge. It is also a great way to get into the industry.

I did my work placement at Porter Heights and it was awesome to learn all this stuff, then go out into the workplace and have it all click. Now I'm heading overseas and through the tutors have lined up in interview with a Canadian Ski Resort. I would definitely recommend the programme to anyone who wants to get into the industry but you have to be motivated to get the most out of it."



Christian Long - Student

## ENTRY CRITERIA

### Certificate in Ski Patrol (Level 3)

#### Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Applicants for whom English is a second language must meet IELTS (or equivalent) Level 5.5 or above.
- Have successfully completed NCEA Level 2 (or overseas equivalent) with a minimum of 8 credits in English and a minimum of 8 credits in mathematics
- Be over 18 years of age as of May 1st of the year they enter the programme to meet the requirements of the test certifier issuing the approved handler test certificate for snow blasting
- Verification by a New Zealand Ski Instructors Alliance (NZSIA) certified ski or snowboard instructor, or an appropriate ski patrol supervisor who has been pre approved by one of the program tutors that the applicant meets or exceeds NZSIA level 5 in skiing or snowboarding (or proof of overseas equivalent)
- Hold a first aid certificate valid for the duration of the programme and including unit standards either 6400, 6401 and 6402 Or units 26551 and 26552 (reported to NZQA) (or proof of overseas equivalent)

*Please note there are some alternative ways to meet the entry criteria. If you would like further clarification please contact the Programme Leader at [karenb@tpp.ac.nz](mailto:karenb@tpp.ac.nz)*

Once the entry criteria have been met by the applicant, the program coordinator will interview the applicant to establish how well the applicant meets the Selection Criteria as listed on the following page.

## Selection Criteria

- Prior work experience in the Snow Sports Industry (paid or voluntary) especially volunteer ski patrolling or trail crew
- Prior general experience in outdoor activities e.g. downhill skiing, snowboarding, cross country skiing, tramping, mountaineering or rock climbing
- A strong and confident skier who is able to continuously ski black runs at a snow sport area all day
- Skier rather than snowboarder
- When the number of applicants who meet the entry criteria exceeds the number of positions available, applicants who meet more of the selection criteria than other applicants will be given priority in selection.

### Special Notes:

- Special Entry may be granted where evidence exists that the applicant can successfully complete the programme. Prospective students are advised to discuss this with the Programme Co-ordinator.

## HOW TO APPLY

You can apply for the programme at any time by telephoning (03) 769 9400 or free phone 0800 800 411 to request an application pack. Application forms can also be downloaded from [www.tpp.ac.nz](http://www.tpp.ac.nz)

We do not set a closing date for applications. The Polytechnic reserves the right not to accept late applications, i.e., after the programme has started.

You will be offered a place subject to meeting the entry and selection requirements and the availability of places on the programme.

The Polytechnic reserves the right to cancel, prior to commencement, any programme which does not attract a minimum number of students.

## CONTACT DETAILS

For further details contact us on  
(03) 769 9400  
0800 800 411 freephone  
info@tpp.ac.nz

Private Bag 607  
Greymouth 7840  
www.tpp.ac.nz

20 August 2014

## THE TAI POUTINI "EDGE"

Tai Poutini is nestled between the wild Tasman Sea and the grand Southern Alps. People who live on the West Coast know what it takes to live on the edge. Confidence, skills and a "can do, will do" attitude set them apart.

TPP graduates are out there on the edge doing it!

He aha te mea nui o te ao?  
He tangata, he tangata, he tangata!

What is the most important thing in the world?  
It is people, it is people, it is people!