

Title	Apply avalanche mitigation techniques to reduce risk to self while operating in avalanche terrain		
Level	5	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to apply avalanche mitigation techniques to reduce risk to self while operating in avalanche terrain.
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Classification	Snowsport > Avalanche
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 All learning and assessment against this standard must be carried out in accordance with the following:
 - relevant legislation including Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and Human Rights Act 1993;
 - relevant Activity Safety Guidelines published by WorkSafe New Zealand and subsequent updates;
 - alpine industry Codes including the *Snow Safety Code* and the *Outdoor Safety Code* (available at <http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz>);
 - a recognised and approved safety management system including organisational policies and procedures including Emergency Action Plans (EAPs), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), incident response management plans and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE);
 - current industry good practice;
 - relevant industry publications.
- 2 Definitions

Current industry good practice means practice that adheres to accepted avalanche risk management practice which is detailed within current industry Codes, guidelines and publications.

Organisational policies and procedures are instructions to staff that may be documented and available for reference at each organisation in the form of an operations manual and/or policy and procedures manual.
- 3 Graduates working within avalanche terrain must operate within the terrain and supervision requirements defined by the scope statements set in the New Zealand Avalanche Terrain Operating Guidelines for Instructors/Guides, which references the Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale (ATES).

- 4 Further information regarding industry guidelines, key definitions and other relevant information can be found within the Avalanche programme guidance document. This document should be consulted when developing learning or assessment against this unit standard. It can be found at www.skillsactive.org.nz.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Apply avalanche mitigation techniques to reduce risk to self while operating in avalanche terrain.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Evaluate risk reduction measures and mitigation strategies for traveling in avalanche terrain.
- 1.2 Evaluate significant human factors in terms of impact on decision-making and risk reduction strategies.
- 1.3 Apply knowledge of good decision-making characteristics used to mitigate risk to self and others while planning for and travelling in avalanche terrain.
- 1.4 Collect and interpret relevant information for trip planning.
- 1.5 Apply safe travel techniques and actions when travelling in avalanche terrain.

Replacement information	This unit standard replaced unit standard 21741.
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Planned review date	31 December 2025
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	17 August 2017	31 December 2022
Revision	2	1 November 2018	31 December 2022
Review	3	25 March 2021	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0099
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Skills Active Aotearoa Limited info@skillsactive.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.