

IMG North Cascades Application Package

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We take your application to join an IMG North Cascades program seriously. Our application process requires time and paperwork from you, which helps us to screen our applicants and ensure that our IMG team members join a program that fits their experience level based on the information provided on this application.

GETTING STARTED

Website availability does not operate in “real-time” and changes occur regularly; please list up to three preferred dates when submitting your application. **Program-specific information including trip itineraries, travel/logistics, equipment lists/rentals, travel insurance and more is on our website.** Please review and understand the details of the program before signing up. Many questions are addressed on our FAQ page. The majority of communications with you are conducted by EMAIL including statements, reminders and important information about your program. Inform our office immediately of changes to your email address and/or phone number.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

This application is a FILLABLE form; however, please note your original hand signatures are REQUIRED. After completing the forms, print the documents and sign by hand where indicated and submit to IMG as instructed below. You may otherwise choose to print a blank application, complete by hand and submit to the IMG office.

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- ✓ Review website for program details & availability; review FAQ page for answers to common questions you might have.
 - ✓ Carefully read and execute the North Cascades Application Package. **We DO NOT accept signatures in electronic or digital format (i.e. inserting an electronic or digital signature into a PDF document). An original hand autograph must be on each signature line. Applications with electronic/digital signatures will be rejected.**
 - ✓ Scan and email the completed application in **PDF format** to Office@MountainGuides.com or fax to (866) 279-7455. **Do not email a link to your forms – we do not open links for security purposes.** If you choose to mail your application and payment via USPS, please address to: International Mountain Guides, P.O. Box 246, Ashford, WA 98304 (please note this option is not recommended as slots fill up fast). Submitting your completed application and applicable fees is the only way to apply for and secure your position on the program – we do not take reservations over the phone. Incomplete forms will delay or prevent your confirmation. Slots are sold on a first come, first served basis. Applications are time-stamped and processed in the order they are received.
 - After completing and submitting your application, please call our office (360.569.2609) to complete payment via credit-card. If you prefer to pay by check: US Customers – make payable to International Mountain Guides Trust Account. *International Customers (including Canada) – No personal checks or bank drafts. Bank wire information will be provided on request.*
 - If you are applying for program admission within 120 days of the program’s start date, all fees for the program are due and payable at time of registration to confirm you on the program.
 - ✓ Receive confirmation statement from our office. This confirms your spot on the program.
 - Your position is not confirmed until all properly executed forms and applicable fees have been received, reviewed and approved at the IMG office in Ashford, WA. If within 48 business hours you have not received an IMG confirmation email, please contact our office to confirm we have received your forms and payment.
 - ✓ Consider purchasing optional travel/trip cancellation insurance:
 - We strongly suggest purchasing travel and trip cancellation insurance for your program, as our program fees are completely non-refundable and non-transferable once paid. Some providers you might consider are listed on our website: <https://www.mountainguides.com/travel-insurance.shtml>.
 - ✓ Additional Notes:
 - If you are legally married, your spouse’s dated signature is REQUIRED on IMG Form 4.
 - Minimum age to participate is 16. Minors age 16-17 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian at all times during the program. Both the minor and parent or legal guardian must sign the Minor’s Application Package.

IMG FORM 1: General Terms and Conditions (Page 1 of 2)

International Mountain Guides, LLC. (“IMG”) reserves the right to deny participation to any individual. Upon acceptance of your Application Package and confirmation by IMG, applicants are deemed Participants of the program and are subject to all of the following terms and conditions:

This service is operated by International Mountain Guides, LLC, a Concessioner under contract with the U.S. Government and administered by the National Park Service. The Concessioner is responsible for conducting these operations in a satisfactory manner. Prices are approved by the National Park Service.

Please address comments to: Superintendent, North Cascades National Park
810 SR 20, Sedro-Woolley, Washington 98284

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTICIPANTS

- We expect participants to be in good health and possess the physical fitness level required for their particular program. We expect participants to bring proper personal clothing and equipment.
- Participants need to read and understand the materials posted on our website regarding the program and its objectives, itinerary and travel plans. Participants should contact IMG if questions arise.
- Participants are expected to work together as a team with consideration for fellow members.

IMG DISCRETION

- IMG requires Participants to be prepared physically, technically and psychologically for all programs and IMG reserves the right to dismiss a Participant from a program at any time based on any factors that IMG discovers.
- Participants must supply IMG true, complete and accurate information on the Participant Information form (including the information concerning training and prior mountaineering experience), Participant Medical Information form, and in any other written or oral communications.
- IMG reserves the right to dismiss any Participant or send any Participant down to lower altitude at any time if, in the sole judgment of IMG, it is in the best interest of that Participant or any other person.
- IMG reserves the right to change, alter or cancel the itinerary as, in IMG’S sole discretion, IMG finds necessary for the proper and safe conduct of the program.
- Participants acknowledge that IMG program plans are necessarily subject to change based on a number of factors, including but not limited to weather, terrain, changes in costs, and many other factors, and that IMG has complete discretion to effect any change of plans to accommodate any of these or other factors, including but not limited to increases in program fees, changes to the program schedule or itinerary, change of guides or staff, and changes to any means of conveyance, when deemed necessary or advisable, without notice and without allowance of refund and with the liability for any increased program fees, if any, to be borne by each participant.

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Participants authorize and release to IMG the use of their image in any photograph or video recording for any legal purpose of IMG.
- Participants understand that no guarantees have been made with respect to the program objectives.
- I agree that Washington law shall be applied in any legal action involving the interpretation, validity and/or enforceability of this agreement or any disagreement or legal action between the parties, and that any legal action, lawsuits or arbitration resulting from my participation in this activity shall be brought only in Pierce County, Washington.
- IMG hereby gives notice that it only serves as an agent for hotels, transportation companies, land operators, and suppliers of travel services, and that no responsibility or liability is assumed by IMG in connection with any travel service, including but not limited to airlines, hotels, and motor vehicle operators, and that IMG will not be responsible for any act, error, omission, nor any injury, loss, accident, delay, irregularity, or danger by a supplier of travel services to Participants.
- Participants acknowledge that they are advised to buy personal life, medical, accident, travel, disability, baggage, cancellation, rescue, and other insurance that may pertain to their participation in the program. Participants understand that IMG provides them with no such insurance coverage.

PROGRAM CANCELLATION

- IMG reserves the right to cancel a trip for any reason prior to departure. In that event, IMG will refund application and program fees paid by Participants.
- In the event of a program cancellation and upon refund to Participants of all program fee payments, IMG shall be released from any further liability to Participants, including but not limited to liability for additional costs Participants may have incurred, pre-departure expenses, non-refundable advance purchase air tickets, equipment purchases and medical expenses.

IMG FORM 1: General Terms and Conditions (Page 2 of 2)

PROGRAM FEES AND PAYMENTS

- Registration for IMG North Cascades programs requires the completed IMG North Cascades Application Package and a minimum \$500.00 non-refundable application fee. Fees are payable by check, Visa/Master Card/AMEX (3% surcharge for each card transaction) or bank wire. Full payment is required at registration if within 120 days of the program date. Application Fees apply toward program fees.
- Final balance of fees is due at 120 days before the first scheduled date of the program. We encourage you to forward payment to our office prior to that time. It is the participant’s responsibility to adhere to the fee payment schedule. Late or non-payment of fees will result in cancellation of program reservations and forfeiture of all fees paid.

CANCELLATION, CHANGE AND REFUND POLICY

- All program cancellations must be made in writing by the participant to IMG. Program cancellations made greater than 120 days before the program date will result in refund of all fees paid less a \$500.00 cancellation fee for each cancelled program. Cancellations made within 120 days of the program date will result in forfeiture of payments made. All fees are 100% non-refundable and non-transferable; fees may not be held over for any future IMG programs. We strongly suggest a travel and trip cancellation insurance policy.
- Changes to program dates that are requested greater than 120 days before the customer’s scheduled program will be allowed for programs of equal or greater value, subject to availability within the current calendar year, with a \$100 change fee imposed. **No changes are allowed within 120 days of the scheduled program.**

AGREEMENT: I, _____ (Applicant print full name), of my own free will, for my family, minor children, spouse, dependent parents, my heirs and executors, assigns and myself, have had a full opportunity to review this document and I have read, understand and agree to the General Terms and Conditions contained herein. I have also read the other Forms in the IMG Application Package, IMG program materials and relevant website information (e.g. Fee Payment Schedule, Itinerary, Personal Equipment Checklist, and other documents, maps, accounts, and information pertinent to the program and I understand and agree to the information, terms and conditions contained therein. The above named forms are incorporated herein.

Applicant’s Signature: _____ Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____
 We DO NOT accept signatures in an electronic or digital format (i.e. inserting an electronic or digital signature into a PDF document). An original autograph must be on each signature line.

THIS APPLICATION PACKAGE IS SUBJECT TO FINAL ACCEPTANCE BY IMG IN ASHFORD, WA.

If under 18, Parent must also SIGN: _____ Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Parent of minor PRINT full name: _____
 If the Parent is divorced, by signing this agreement, signing Parent acknowledges that they have the legal right to sign on behalf of the minor child.

IMG FORM 2: Applicant Information All fields are REQUIRED – Please print clearly

A. Personal Information

Full Legal Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

We communicate with you by email - please print clearly

Cell Phone: _____ Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY): _____ Occupation: _____

Marital Status: Does Applicant have a legal spouse or domestic partner? Check one: Yes: No:

If "Yes", please print the full name and the email address of Applicant's legal spouse/domestic partner:

Emergency Contact Name/Relationship & Phone: _____

Alternate Contact Name/Relationship & Phone: _____

Program Name: _____ **Fee: \$** _____

List 3 dates in order of preference: 1st Choice: _____ 2nd Choice: _____ 3rd Choice: _____

List any others in your party: _____

Providing names DOES NOT reserve slots for your climbing partners. All applicants must submit completed forms and payment to reserve a slot on the climb.

B. Mountaineering Background and Related Activities List your pertinent climbs, past training and related activities.

C. Training and Conditioning Plan: Describe how you plan to prepare yourself for this program.

AGREEMENT

The information I have provided on IMG Form 2: Applicant Information is true, complete and correct.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

We DO NOT accept signatures in an electronic or digital format (i.e. inserting an electronic or digital signature into a PDF document). An original autograph must be on each signature line.

If under 18, Parent must also SIGN: _____ Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Parent of minor PRINT full name: _____

If the Parent is divorced, by signing this agreement, signing Parent acknowledges that they have the legal right to sign on behalf of the minor child.

IMG FORM 3: Applicant Medical Information

All fields are REQUIRED – Please print clearly

Climbing and hiking at altitude is extremely strenuous. In addition, medical care may not be immediately available in the backcountry. We do not want you to engage in any activity that would be detrimental to your health or which would be opposed by your doctor because of recent illness, injury, surgery, etc. If you have any questions regarding your participation in the expedition, please contact your doctor.

Name: _____ Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Gender: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____ Please describe your health: _____
 (Optional)

Do you have, or have you ever had the following: (Indicate YES or NO to each, provide explanation for YES answers)

CONDITIONS:	YES	NO	If YES, provide detailed explanation
Allergies			
Medically Restricted Dietary Needs			
Diabetes			
Epilepsy			
Asthma			
High Blood Pressure			
Heart Disease			
Are you pregnant?			
Previous Altitude Problems			
Cerebral or Pulmonary Edema			
Frostbite			
Speech, vision, hearing impairment			
Shoulder, back, knee problems			
Dislocations			
OTHER:	YES	NO	If YES, provide detailed explanation
Surgeries			
Medications			
Tobacco use			
Get cold easily			
Limitations on activities			
Other conditions that might affect health			

AGREEMENT

The information I have provided on IMG Form 3: Applicant Medical Information is true, complete and correct.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____
 We DO NOT accept signatures in an electronic or digital format (i.e. inserting an electronic or digital signature into a PDF document). An original autograph must be on each signature line.

If under 18, Parent must also SIGN: _____ Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Parent of minor PRINT full name: _____
 If the Parent is divorced, by signing this agreement, signing Parent acknowledges that they have the legal right to sign on behalf of the minor child.

IMG FORM 4: Acknowledgement of Risk and Contract (Page 1 of 3)

IMPORTANT: THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT

Please read and understand this document before signing. If you have any questions, please consult us and/or your attorney. Please review and sign with spouse (or parent if minor).

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN GUIDES, LLC. (hereinafter also referred to as "IMG") has taken care to ensure that our Participants experience a rewarding mountaineering expedition. We wish to inform our Participants that mountaineering and foreign travel are not risk-free. The same elements that contribute to the unique character and fun of exploring and climbing mountains, such as the physical exertion or outdoor living, can cause loss or damage to equipment, injury, illness, or in extreme cases, permanent trauma, paralysis, or death. We do not want to heighten or reduce your enthusiasm for the experience, but we do want you to know in advance what to expect and to be informed of some of the possible risks. We ask that you read this acknowledgement of risk and contract, sign it, and return the original documents to our office.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK

You, the Participant, need to understand that you are going to be entering an environment with significant hazard and risks, including those associated with living, camping, traveling out of doors, traveling in foreign countries that may be politically unstable, worldwide dangers associated with the war on terrorism, and with the forces of nature. Below is a list of the possible hazards, but not all of the hazards you may encounter.

Travel is by vehicle and on foot. Travel by foot is over rugged unpredictable trail and off-trail terrain, including boulder fields, downed timber, river crossings, high mountain passes, snow, ice, glaciers, steep slopes, and slippery rocks. Attendant risks include vehicle accidents, falling, drowning, and others usually associated with such travel, as well as environmental risks. The risks associated with transportation can be as great as the mountaineering risk itself. You assume the risk of all travel arranged by yourself or by IMG.

Meals are prepared over stoves and sometimes-open fires. Water often requires disinfecting before use. Camping hazards may include burns, tent fires, carbon monoxide poisoning, cuts, diarrhea and flu-like illness.

Environmental risks include rapidly moving, deep or cold water, insects, snakes, and predators including large animals, falling and rolling rocks, lightning, avalanches, flash floods, and unpredictable forces of nature, including weather that may change to extreme conditions without notice. Additional risks are frostbite, high altitude illness, sunburn, heatstroke, dehydration, and other mild or serious conditions.

Climbing and Mountaineering are hazardous. The obvious accidents that occur in climbing are falling while climbing, whether you fall only a few feet, part way down the mountain, or all the way to the bottom. As you fall you may hit objects or the terrain in your path. If a rope stops your fall, the jolt from the rope may cause injury. Falling to the ground may cause serious injury from any height. In addition to the hazards of falling, falling objects may hit you. Rocks, ice, snow, climbing equipment and even people may fall and hit you as you are standing or while climbing.

Equipment may fail. The extreme conditions of the environment in which climbing and mountaineering equipment is used in conjunction with the damage caused by the environment can cause climbing equipment to fail. The rock or ice to which you are holding or to which you have placed protection may break, causing you to fall or causing your protection to pull out from the rock or ice. As you climb you may pull out protection from the rock or ice. You may experience injury from holding on to the rock or using equipment. You may also experience rope burns from handling the rope. There are many hazards associated with snow, ice, and glacier climbing. Ice climbing is a technical activity involving the use of technical equipment including ice axes and crampons. Ice axes must be used properly to be effective and to prevent injury to you or other people. Crampons have sharp points on the bottom and front of the boot. These points are dangerous to you and other people. Ice climbing involves cold, water, and steep terrain. Ice is constantly falling and can cause injury if you are hit. Other objects may fall and hit you due to thawing or being knocked down by the ice or other climbers.

IMG FORM 4: Acknowledgement of Risk and Contract (Page 2 of 3)

Avalanches are often a threat in the mountains. An avalanche is snow and ice that has released from the mountain and is moving down the mountainside. If you are trapped in an avalanche, you can be injured or suffocated by the avalanche or trapped in the avalanche, which may kill you. The avalanche debris may force you into a collision with other immovable objects, which might injure or kill you or you may be forced into a crevasse or over a cliff.

Glacier travel is always dangerous. Crossing crevasses or walking over snow bridges covering a crevasse can lead to a fall into a crevasse. Falling into a crevasse can cause injuries due to the fall or objects hitting you during and after your fall. You may also be injured while stopping in the bottom or wedging into the sides. Once in a crevasse you will be subject to cold and hypothermia. Another aspect of glacier travel to be aware of is the danger from seracs, large blocks of ice or snow you may need to walk near or around. While crossing glaciers or hiking in the mountains, you may be in an area where seracs or ice can fall, injuring or killing you.

You may trek and climb at altitude to which you will not be accustomed. Altitude sickness is the term used to describe the effects on a human body at altitudes higher than the person is accustomed to. Altitude sickness is usually associated with nausea, headaches and a loss of appetite. Altitude sickness can lead to conditions that may result in death. You must understand that the mountaineering expedition in which you are about to participate includes a high degree of risk of hypothermia. High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE) and High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE) occur when you are at altitudes and have not acclimated properly. HAPE and HACE can be fatal if not recognized and treated quickly. Hypothermia is the name for a medical condition where the core body temperature drops to a point that the body is unable to maintain and heat itself. Hypothermia can quickly result in death.

You may be hours or days from any medical facility. In an emergency the people treating you may not have the same standards as hospitals or doctor's offices in the United States. You will need to be vigilant in your normal daily habits such as eating, hand-washing and bodily functions to not introduce dangerous bacteria, virus and diseases into your system.

Decisions made by the IMG staff and Participants on a high altitude expedition are based on a variety of perceptions and evaluations, which by their nature are imprecise and subject to errors in judgment. Participant understands and agrees to abide by these decisions. **However, the Participant must exercise their own ability and thought in keeping safe and secure, and is solely liable for their safety. Absent direction from IMG, it is his or her decision to travel, return home or descend at any time.** Throughout the trip, Participant is responsible for his or her own safety and for the safety of other members of their expedition. Participant agrees to adhere to all decisions made by the employees, contractors, guides, owners and members of IMG at all times. Participant understands that those decisions may be based on many factors, including the overall safety of the group. Participant understands and agrees to those decisions, which are in fact the way most professionally conducted high-altitude expeditions operate.

There is a high level of stress and anxiety while undertaking any mountaineering expedition. In addition, you may encounter or see sights, which may disturb you. It is also possible that some participants will suffer mental anguish or trauma from the experience or their injuries.

This list is not an exclusive or exhaustive list of possible risks, injuries, trauma, or accidents that may occur while mountaineering. Most of these injuries are rare and you are not likely to encounter them, however they have occurred historically and you need to know about them, as well as other possible injuries not mentioned above. Some injuries occur more often when the participants are using illegal drugs or alcohol or are not physically able to undertake the expedition, so the use of illegal drugs or alcohol will not be permitted on the trip while engaged in climbing or mountaineering.

IMG FORM 4: Acknowledgement of Risk and Contract (Page 3 of 3)

CONTRACT

I certify that my family, including minor children, spouse, representatives, heirs, assigns, subrogors and dependent parents, understands the risks of mountaineering and the legal consequences of this document. I am fully capable of participating in the mountaineering expedition. I state that I have read the above statement on some of the possible risks in trekking and mountaineering, and I voluntarily accept them. Therefore, I assume all risks in participating in this activity, including but not limited to those listed above, for myself and my family, including minor children, spouse and dependent parents, for bodily injury, death and loss of personal property and any expenses as a result of my negligence. I also understand that IMG reserves the right to refuse continued participation in the expedition to any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participation. I am in good physical condition and able to undertake this expedition.

I hereby authorize any medical treatment or rescue deemed to be necessary. I hereby give permission for transportation to any medical facility or hospital, and I authorize for any qualified guide or medical personnel to render necessary emergency medical care for my family or myself. I hereby authorize the release of any medical information in the possession of IMG to any medical facility, hospital, ambulance, first aid provider, first aid service, doctor, nurse or other such person rendering care on my behalf. I hereby waive any action or claim against IMG or any health care provider, hospital, doctor, nurse or first aid provider for the release of this medical information.

I agree that Washington law shall be applied in any legal action involving the interpretation, validity and/or enforceability of this agreement or any disagreement or legal action between the parties, and that any legal action, lawsuits or arbitration resulting from my participation in this activity shall be brought only in Pierce County, Washington.

Should a court of competent jurisdiction declare any part of this agreement unenforceable, the remaining parts or paragraphs shall remain in full force and effect. A copy of this release can be used as if it were an original. The terms of this agreement shall continue and be in effect after the expedition.

AGREEMENT

I, _____ (Participant print full name), of my own free will, for my family, minor children, spouse, dependent parents, my heirs and executors, assigns and myself, have had a full opportunity to review this document and I have read, understand, accept and acknowledge the risks and liability for myself and my family.

Participant's Signature: _____ Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

We DO NOT accept signatures in an electronic or digital format (i.e. inserting an electronic or digital signature into a PDF document). An original autograph must be on each signature line.

Signature of Participant's Spouse: (REQUIRED): _____ Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

If under 18, Parent must also SIGN: _____ Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Parent of minor PRINT full name: _____

If the Parent is divorced, by signing this agreement, signing Parent acknowledges that they have the legal right to sign on behalf of the minor child.