

# How to become a Qualified Ski or Snowboard Instructor

Make it more than a Gap Year...

## Get yourself Started...

- Enrol on a gap year programme or instructor training course to achieve your national or internationally recognised qualifications.
- Many UK companies offer courses in Europe, Canada, NZ and Australia. These can be from 3 to 18 weeks long. You can check out your local ski dome/dry slope for shorter courses.
- Alternatively apply for a ski internship by visiting our website below as a great way to afford your season in the snow.

## Where to Teach

- You can teach anywhere in the world with a Level 1 qualification from CSIA, CASI and NZSIA.
- A BASI level 1 course allows you to instruct at your local ski facility. You will need a BASI level 2 qualification to instruct on snow.
- To be an instructor in France you will need to speak fluent French and attain french qualifications.

## Achieve the Qualifications

- Most UK students travel to Europe, Canada or New Zealand to train.
- Students usually become members of British (BASI), Canadian (CSIA/CASI) or New Zealand (NZSIA) associations.
- These national associations offer 4 levels of qualifications. The entry qualification is level 1 and the highest is level 4.
- A level 2 qualification can be attained in one season on a gap programme or training course

## Getting a Job

- You've got your qualifications and the option to work and travel all over the world! Unless you're heading for Europe, you're going to need a visa.
- Canadian, Australian and New Zealand student holiday working visas can be obtained if you are between 18 and 30.
- We suggest in your first season gaining your qualifications on an instructor course. Then apply for a visa with the country you plan to work in. Newly qualified instructors will find it easier to gain employment with a visa than without.
- Instructor qualifications are a great way to boost your CV if you wish to work in outdoor sports/ adventure industry.

## Life as an Instructor

- Wages: about £8 per hour. If you're requested for lessons or give good service you can earn even more.
- Hours & Lessons: expect at first to work 25-30 hours a week teaching beginners.
- Career Development: employers give further training to improve your own skiing/boarding and teach to a higher standard.
- Social Life: being part of vibrant communities of young, like-minded people means life is never boring.
- Perks: season lift pass, ski/board every day, resort discounts, cheap accommodation, lifelong friends great memories.

## Case Study- Jade, 20

" I turned my love of skiing into a career! The WSC provided excellent tuition and guidance whilst I gained my level 1&2 CSIA. It was great to be surrounded by people with similar interests and the group bonded quickly. I now work at ski Dubai, the worlds largest ski dome. "



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