



CHALLENGES UNLIMITED
BUILDING ADVENTURE SINCE 1988



Joint Position on Extensions to Practitioner Certification Due to COVID-19

Background

Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT) Professional Vendor Members offer Practitioner Certification programs in compliance with the ACCT Practitioner Certification Standards. Certification is granted directly by the vendor organization. ACCT Professional Vendor Members are accredited by the ACCT and are required to demonstrate compliance with these standards. In Canada Challenges Unlimited Inc. and Adventureworks Associates, Inc. are the only two vendors who have been accredited as Professional Vendor Members of the ACCT. Both organizations offer training and certification programs that have been accredited by the ACCT.

The ACCT has not changed or temporarily suspended any standards in response to COVID-19. This includes ANSI/ACCT 03 -2019 Challenge Courses and Canopy/Zipline Tours Standards and ACCT Practitioner Certification Standards. As Professional Vendor Members of the ACCT, Challenges Unlimited, Inc. and Adventureworks Associates, Inc. recommend that challenge course operators continue to follow these standards even in the midst of COVID-19.

COVID-19

COVID-19 presents unique challenges for challenge course operators. In particular it is recognized that many camps may be opening with reduced lead times and budgets. Limitations on social gathering have caused certification and recertification courses to be cancelled or postponed. Additionally, cross-country travel has been and may continue to be inhibited due to the pandemic. Challenges Unlimited, Inc. and Adventureworks Associates, Inc. believe that the current situation requires some flexibility with regard to recertification time periods. It is with this in mind that Challenges Unlimited Inc. and Adventureworks Associates Inc. have taken the following position on the extension of certifications.

Extension of Certificates

Challenges Unlimited, Inc. and Adventureworks Associates, Inc. will be offering extensions on a limited basis for LEVEL 2 Certifications only. No extensions are being granted for LEVEL 1 Certifications.



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Six month extensions to Level 2 Certifications may be granted to individuals who meet ALL the following criteria:

1. The individual holds a Level 2 Certification that expires no earlier than March 1, 2020 and no later than August 31, 2020.
2. The individual participated in a 40 hour Level 2 training course after March 1, 2017
3. The individual meets the ACCT Practitioner Certification recertification requirements for Level 2, including the provision of a portfolio documenting;
 - a. 150 hours of challenge course experience as a Level 2
 - b. 24 hours of additional relevant training within the past three years.
4. The individual will be returning to a challenge course site at which they have previously worked.

Additional conditions

- Extensions will only be granted by the original certifying organization.
- as required by the ANSI/ACCT 03 -2019 Challenge Courses and Canopy/Zip Line Tours Standards, all challenge course staff are expected to participate in annual training. If this training has not occurred in the past 12 months, it must take place at the start of the season.

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