

Leadership Types and Qualifications

Co-Leader (CL)

Co-leads trips to wilderness areas with qualified AMC YM leader.

Requirements

- Active AMC Membership
- AMC Leadership Training or commensurate experience (as approved by YMSC)

Local Leader (LL)

A YM Local Leader organizes and coordinates local trips within I-495, excluding islands, and can usually be accessible by public transportation. Trips are meant to have an outdoor focus and can include social aspects such as going to a bar or restaurant after the designated activity. Trips can include, but are not limited to local hikes, ice skating, and walking tours.

Requirements

- Active AMC Membership
- AMC Leadership Training or commensurate experience (as approved by YMSC)
- Co-Lead one S.O.S. or other local lead trip

Three Season Leader (L3)

A Young Members (YM) Three Season Leader coordinates, organizes, and leads trips to wilderness areas, touring centers, resort areas, and outfitter sponsored events during the period April 1 - Dec 1 of any calendar year. Such trips may include hiking, backpacking, and bicycle trips. YM Three Season Leaders are permitted to lead trips within the I-495 corridor year-round. YM Three Season Leaders may also lead day and overnight trips to alpine ski areas and cross-country ski touring centers year-round.

Note: Please contact the YMSC Vice Chair for posting a trip outside I-495.

Requirements

It is recommended that applicants for YM Three Season Leader co-lead a minimum of three hiking or backpacking trips, consisting of at least two trips with the YM Committee. Applicants who have not co-lead this number of trips may still be approved at the discretion of the YMSC. We suggest that Co-leaders screen the trips that they co-lead, and that the types of trips be consistent with the future planned activities of the aspiring Leader. For instance, future Leaders interested in running above tree-line wilderness hikes should co-lead hikes of equivalent difficulty.

- At least two of the trips must occur in a wilderness area.
- At least one of the trips must ascend above treeline. For Example, areas in the White Mountains above treeline generally encompass the Franconia Ridge from Mount Lafayette to Little Haystack, The Presidential Ridge from Mount Madison to Mount Pierce, the section of ridge

between Mount Guyot and Bondcliff in the Pemigewasset Wilderness, and the summit area of Mount Moosilauke. Other areas in New England may be considered above treeline at the discretion of the Leadership Review Committee (LRC).

- At least two of the qualifying trips must be a minimum of seven miles round trip walking distance.
- At least two of the qualifying trips must be screened by the applicant.
- A maximum of one qualifying trip may be co-led with a Hiking/Backpacking (HB) Committee Leader.

In addition:

- The applicant's AMC membership must be in good standing.
- The applicant must have taken Wilderness First Aid (WFA) certification or its equivalent at one point (as approved by YMSC). See the [WFA page](#) for more information.

Four Season Leader (L4)

A Young Members (YM) Four Season Leader coordinates, organizes, and leads trips to wilderness areas, touring centers, resort areas, and outfitter sponsored events at any time of the calendar year. Such trips may include hiking and backpacking trips, backcountry ski trips, and bicycle trips.

Requirements

- Applicants for YM Four Season Leader must co-lead a minimum of three hiking, backpacking, or back-country ski trips during calendar winter. In the Northeastern United States and Canada, calendar winter typically encompasses the period December 21st through March 20th. The trips must meet the following minimum criteria:
- All trips must occur in a wilderness area.
- At least one of the trips must ascend above treeline. For example, areas in the White Mountains above treeline generally encompass the Franconia Ridge from Mount Lafayette to Little Haystack, The Presidential Ridge from Mount Madison to Mount Pierce, the section of ridge between Mount Guyot and Bondcliff in the Pemigewasset Wilderness, and the summit area of Mount Moosilauke. Other areas in New England may be considered above treeline at the discretion of the YM Steering Committee (YMSC).
- At least two of the qualifying trips must be screened by the applicant.
- A maximum of one qualifying hiking or backpacking trip may be co-led with a Hiking/Backpacking (HB) Committee Leader or one backcountry ski trip with a Ski Committee Leader.

In addition, the following apply:

- The applicant's AMC membership must be in good standing.
- The applicant must have taken Wilderness First Aid (WFA) certification or its equivalent at one point (as approved by YMSC). See the [WFA page](#) for more information.
- The applicant should submit three recommendations to the YMSC Chair from the leaders with whom they co-led the qualifying winter trips. At least two of these leaders should be YM Four

Season Leaders. In the case where the applicant has co- led two trips with the same leader only two recommendations are necessary.

Important Note:

Please remember that the Young Members committee wants you to become the type of leader that you want to put the work into. This is a give and take relationship that results in policy changes (hopefully improvements) based on the needs of the committee as understood by the steering committee. If there are special issues or needs that aren't being met please strongly consider attending a steering committee meeting so that these issues and needs can be heard.

Policy Definitions

The following terms are defined below for this policy.

Backpack:

A "backpack" trip is defined as having one or more overnight stays in a "wilderness area."

Day Hike:

A "day hike" is a trip in a "wilderness area" with no overnight stay.

Tree line:

"Treeline" is defined as the area on a mountain where the trees are less than eight feet tall. (Source: page 146 of the AMC White Mountain Guide - 26th edition).

Trip:

A "trip" is defined as an outdoor activity (hiking, backpacking, kayaking, biking, etc.) that is publicly advertised to AMC members through AMC trip listings or at AMC events by AMC leaders.

Three season:

A "three season" trip is defined as one that does not take place in the "winter" (please see winter definition).

Wilderness area:

A "wilderness area" is any area that is located more than one mile or one hour away from rescue services.

Wilderness First Aid:

"Wilderness First Aid" (WFA) is training in emergency medicine recognized by the Wilderness Medical Society (or other official body such as the U.S. D.O.T.). Alternatively, relevant emergency medical training of more than 16 hours (e.g., a EMT license) can be substituted in place of WFA.

Winter:

"Winter" is defined as the time period between November 1st and March 31st (both dates included).

Trip Posting Disclaimer

All trips posted by YM Leaders (either Three or Four Season) are subject to review and approval by the YM Steering Committee (YMSC). A YM Leader's skill set must be compatible with the types of trips being led. At the YM Steering Committee's discretion, a YM Leader may be asked to provide evidence of their expertise as it pertains to the type of trip being proposed prior to approval. Trips may be denied or approved.