

Andes Ski Patrol FAQs



Do I need to be an expert skier or snowboarder?

No. You should be a confident skier or rider who can safely get around the hill, but you don't need to be an expert. We'll provide training to help you build the additional skills you'll need.

What kind of medical training is required?

All patrollers complete Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) training, the national standard for ski patrols. You'll also need CPR certification, which is renewed every two years. Training is provided through the patrol.

How much time do I need to commit?

- The initial OEC Classroom Training is conducted over a 12–14-week period.
- The initial OET On the Hill Training is conducted over a 6–8-week period.
- Patrollers volunteer a minimum of 14 shifts per season. Many choose to do more, but we work with your schedule.

Is this a paid position?

Ski Patrol at Andes Tower Hills is a volunteer role. However, patrollers receive valuable perks like discounted passes, gear discounts, and NSP member benefits.

What are the age requirements?

Patrollers must be 15 or older to be full members. (Patrollers or Candidates under age 18 **MUST** work with a mentor Patroller during shifts).

Can I still patrol if I don't have medical experience?

Yes! Most of our members had no prior medical background before joining. OEC training is designed for people starting fresh.

Does it cost money to be in Ski Patrol?

Yes. There are some costs associated with joining Ski Patrol:

- First-year Annual National Ski Patrol Dues: \$138
- Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) Manual and Course Fee: \$150
- CPR Test: \$37
- Required National Ski Patrol Vest or Jacket (patroller expense)
- Required Medical Pack (patroller expense)
- These costs are the responsibility of each patroller.

What's the best part of being on Ski Patrol?

Our members say it's a mix of helping people, being outdoors, camaraderie, and staying active in the sport they love.