

Apprentice & Facilitator Certification Procedures

Gibbs Lake Challenge Course



Level I: Apprentice

An Apprentice receives training to co-facilitate groups on the WSU/4-H Gibbs Lake Challenge Course only with a WSU/4-H-Certified Facilitator (please see below). To begin the Apprentice certification process, the potential Apprentice shall contact his/her county's 4-H Coordinator to apply to be a 4-H Volunteer and fill out necessary paperwork. After successful completion of the 4-H Volunteer application process and return of required paperwork, the potential Apprentice will select one of these 3 training Pathways:

1. Complete a 32-hour challenge course training at the WSU/4-H Gibbs Lake Challenge Course, *or*
2. Complete a 24-hour WSU/4-H Portable Challenge training plus and an 8-hour local operating procedures training at the WSU/4-H Gibbs Lake Challenge Course, *or*
3. Provide documentation of Facilitator Certification at one of the other WSU/4-H Challenge Courses in Washington State and complete an 8-hour local operating procedures training at the WSU/4-H Gibbs Lake Challenge Course .

Level II: Facilitator

A Facilitator receives training and certification to facilitate groups on the course independently after:

1. Successfully completing one of the 3 Pathways outlined in the Apprentice Certification process above.
2. Showing proof of current First Aid/CPR certification to WSU Extension Jefferson County 4-H. An Apprentice who successfully completes Pathway #3 will receive Facilitator Certification at this point.
3. Successfully facilitating a group while under observation of a qualified Observer. An Apprentice who has followed Pathway #1 or #2 must make arrangements with a qualified Observer (through WSU Extension Jefferson County 4-H) to be observed while facilitating a group on the WSU/4-H Gibbs Lake Challenge Course. A successful observation will include the following completed to the satisfaction of the qualified Observer:
 - All elements on the observation form must be demonstrated.
 - The facilitation must be completed following all safety procedures.
 - The Apprentice must debrief the day with the qualified Observer.

If the Qualified Observer is not satisfied with the performance of the Apprentice:

- The Observer and Apprentice will discuss areas in need of improvement,
- The Observer will make recommendations for steps to take to improve, and
- The apprentice may make arrangements to be Observed one final time.

Recertification

In order to maintain certification, each year Certified Facilitators must:

1. Attend a recertification training.
2. Facilitate groups for a minimum of 24 hours on the Gibbs Lake Challenge Course and/or using Portable Challenge resources.