

**Sierra Avalanche Center
Avalanche Rescue for Motorized Users
2022 Course Syllabus**

Course Summary

This course provides avalanche rescue practice for motorized users. Learning will occur through a mix of an online session and one day of field practice. Because avalanche avoidance skills should be prioritized over avalanche rescue skills, it is strongly recommended - but not required - that only graduates of a Level 1 register for this class (the Level 1 can be motorized or non-motorized). This class follows the guidelines for Avalanche Rescue as established by the American Avalanche Association.

Schedule

Both classes for a given weekend begin with a combined mandatory online session prior to the field day. The field day will run from 9am-5pm *either* Saturday or Sunday, depending on which class you register for. Instructors will communicate specific plans prior to and throughout the class. Attendance and participation in the full class is mandatory.

Course Requirements:

Participants must:

- Have the ability to ride off-trail in variable conditions. Riding ability is less important on Rescue classes than on Level 1 and Level 2 classes, but participants still need to be able to ride off-trail in variable conditions.
- Bring a functioning beacon, shovel, and probe. Beacons should be modern three-antennae, shovels should be made specifically for avalanche rescue, and probes should be 270cm or longer. Avalanche gear must be worn/carried on self, and not in tunnel bag. An extra shovel in tunnel bag is recommended.
- Wear a DOT or similarly approved helmet and weather-appropriate gear.
- Ride a reliable, well maintained snowmobile/snowbike, capable of off-trail travel. Machines must be registered with visible registration markings. Spare belts and repair kits are strongly recommended. Poorly maintained machines and/or machines not intended for off-trail travel may jeopardize the experience of others.
- Read the required materials and apply the Daily Flow and Alerts stickers to machines for easy reference while riding.
- Bring a radio capable of operating on [FRS/GMRS frequencies](#).

Required Text and Materials:

- [The SAC Daily Flow](#) user guide and video. A paper copy of *The SAC Daily Flow* book will be provided in class.
- Daily Flow and Alerts stickers, available for free at most regional powersports dealers. Additional stickers will be provided in class.
- Handouts and/or weblinks as provided.

Learning Outcomes

The successful student will be able to:

- Recognize that companion rescue skills are necessary for travel in avalanche terrain.
- Follow travel protocols as taught on Level 1 classes, including trailhead checks for rescue and emergency gear.
- Demonstrate familiarity with rescue gear.
- Improve skills by completing companion rescue scenarios.
- Facilitate continued companion rescue practice with riding partners.
- Describe medical and traumatic problems associated with avalanche accidents.
- Plan for a self evacuation and/or transition to an evacuation led by a SAR team.
- Assist with an organized rescue led by a SAR team.