

Here are all of our current mock student opportunities and how to register.

Please read through the requirements carefully before registering as a mock student. If you have any questions please contact us – mock.students@pyb.co.uk.

How to Register as a Mock Student

- Please read and ensure that you fall within the minimum and maximum levels of experience for the course(s) you are interested in.
- If you would like to be a mock student, please complete the mock student information form with the course(s) and dates(s) you are interested in and return to us. Please look carefully as many are only on weekdays.
- We will check that you meet the requirements for the course(s) and anyone who is unsuitable for whatever reason will be contacted.
- As candidates book onto the courses, we will start to arrange mock students and will contact those we have on file by email to inform them that we are currently able to take students on that particular date(s).
Places are then allocated on a first come first served basis on receipt of a reply to the email. You will then receive an email either confirming your place or to let you know that at present there are no longer places available.
- Things can change up to the last minute so it is possible a place may become available due to additional candidates or mock student cancellation.
- Places are subject to the course running which is dependent on bookings and weather conditions and may be subject to alteration due to candidate cancellation.
- If we need to cancel your place, we will contact you as soon as possible.
Once your details are on file it will not be possible for us to predict whether or not you will be allocated a place on the course.

Being a mock student is a fantastic opportunity to gain skills and experience through training or through mock assessments. An experienced trainer supervises all our candidates and your contribution enables us to train and qualify future teaching staff. We look forward to seeing you on one of our courses.

ML TRAINEES

Mountain Assessor Training Workshop

We can offer ML trainees the opportunity to undergo mock assessment sessions. This is a fantastic opportunity for people preparing for their ML assessment to gain an insight into how their assessment will work and receive feedback on their readiness for assessment.

What can you expect?

During the day you will undergo a series of sessions, focusing on some of the following areas:

- Navigation,
- Security on steep ground
- Group management
- Environmental / conservation considerations.

During these sessions Mountaineering Instructor Award (MIA) trainee assessors will assess you. A Mountaineering assessor from Plas y Brenin will supervise the MIA candidate.

What are the Pre-requisites?

- You must have undertaken your ML training and be preparing to take your assessment.
- You should have fulfilled the criteria for assessment candidates. (See MLT guidelines on www.mltuk.org)

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring appropriate clothing and equipment for taking a group out on the mountain. You will need a compass and a map of the Snowdon massif. It is possible to borrow equipment from stores; however it is worth remembering that during assessment you are assessed on the use of your equipment as well as your performance. Please arrive at

Plas y Brenin between 8.30am and 8.45am and report to reception. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks. You will then be asked to wait for the course director who will brief you on what will happen during the day.

Who are you a mock student for?

We need ML trainees for our Mountain Assessor workshops. The dates are as follows:

4 Mar
20 May
23 Sep
14 Oct
11 Nov

MLT Train the Trainers

We can offer ML trainees the opportunity to undergo mock assessment sessions. This is a fantastic opportunity for people preparing for their ML assessment to gain an insight into how their assessment will work and receive feedback on their readiness for assessment.

What can you expect?

During the day you will undergo a series of sessions, focusing on some of the areas of the ML syllabus.

What are the Pre-requisites?

- You must have undertaken your ML training and be preparing to take your assessment.
- You should have fulfilled the criteria for assessment candidates. (See MLT guidelines on www.mltuk.org)

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring appropriate clothing and equipment for taking a group out on the mountain. You will need a compass and a map of the Snowdon massif. It is possible to borrow equipment from stores; however it is worth remembering that during assessment you are assessed on the use of your equipment as well as your performance. Please arrive at Plas y Brenin between 8.30am and 8.45am and report to reception. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks. You will then be asked to wait for the course director who will brief you on what will happen during the day.

Who are you a mock student for?

We need ML trainees for our MLT Train the Trainers course. The dates are as follows:

8 Apr
30 Sep
2 Dec

NOVICE CLIMBERS

Mountain Instructor Award Assessments & Re-Assessments

We can offer novice climbers a day's tuition in rock climbing. The content of the day will depend on weather conditions and individual experience.

What can you expect?

The day will consist of you doing a multi pitch route, with a Mountain Instructor Award (MIA) assessment candidate instructing you. A Mountaineering assessor from Plas y Brenin will supervise the MIA candidate.

What are the Pre-requisites?

- You will have some climbing experience and lots of enthusiasm to learn. This day is not for people who are scared of heights!
- We will take climbers who are seconding up to 'Hard Severe' level.
- We are unable to take MIA trainees on this day.

Please be honest about your climbing grade both seconding and leading as those who come along with too much experience make the assessment for the candidate extremely difficult.

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring outdoor clothing, rock climbing equipment and rock boots if you have them. We can supply any kit you do not have from our equipment stores. Please arrive at Plas y Brenin between 8.30am and 8.45am and report to reception. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks. You will then be asked to wait for the course director who will brief you on what will happen during the day.

Who are you a mock student for?

We need novice climbers for our MIA assessment courses and for randomly booked MIA re-assessment days. The dates are as follows:

2 May
30 May
20 Jun
11 Jul
18 Jul
29 Aug
5 Sep
19 Sep
10 Oct
17 Oct
24 Oct
31 Oct

Dates for the MIA Re-assessment days will be emailed out as and when they are booked, they are often Mondays and Tuesdays. Please indicate on your form if you would like to be contacted about these days. There are likely to be some climbing, some scrambling and some crag rescue days if you are only interested in certain types of re-assessment days please also indicate your preference on your form.

Climbing Wall Leading Award Assessments

We can offer keen indoor climbers who would like to learn how to lead on an indoor wall an afternoon's tuition.

What can you expect?

The afternoon will consist of you learning how to lead on an indoor wall with a candidate undergoing their Climbing Wall Leading Award (CWLA) assessment. A Mountaineering assessor from Plas y Brenin will supervise the CWLA candidate.

What are the Pre-requisites?

- You will have indoor climbing experience, be happy top-roping and belaying.
- Be keen and ready to start learning how to lead.

Please be honest about your skill level as those you come along with too little or too much experience make the assessment for the candidate extremely difficult.

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring comfortable clothing for climbing in, harness and rock boots if you have them. We can supply any kit you do not have from our equipment stores. Please arrive at Plas y Brenin at 12.00pm and report to reception. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks. You will then be asked to wait for the course director who will brief you on what will happen during the afternoon. If you wish you can arrive earlier and make use of our indoor wall free of charge (you will need to register first – there is no charge for this).

Who are you a mock student for?

We need keen indoor climbers for our CWLA assessment courses. The dates are as follows:

14 Jan
11 Feb
21 Apr
3 Nov
24 Nov

NOVICE WINTER CLIMBERS Mountain Instructor Certificate Assessments

We can offer novice winter hillwalkers and summer/novice winter climbers two day's tuition, one will be a mountaineering day and the other will be a winter climbing day. The content of the day will depend on weather conditions and individual experience.

What can you expect?

One day will be a mountaineering day and the other will be a winter climbing day, with a Mountain Instructor Certificate (MIC) assessment candidate instructing you. A Mountaineering assessor from Plas y Brenin will supervise the MIC candidate.

What are the Pre-requisites?

- You will either be a summer climber or novice winter climber looking to have some tuition in winter conditions OR a novice winter hillwalker wishing to gain further skills and be keen to go winter climbing.
- Have a good level of fitness as two days out in Scottish winter conditions will be very demanding.

Please be honest about your experience as those who come along with too much experience make the assessment for the candidate extremely difficult.

You must be able to attend both days.

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring plenty of warm clothing, waterproofs, boots, crampons, ice axe etc.. We can supply any kit you do not have from our equipment stores.

Please arrive at Alltshellach by 7.45am, you will also need to have called in the evening before and meet the course director and collect any kit you need to borrow. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks.

Address: Alltshellach (HF Holidays), Loch Leven, Fort William. PH33 6SA

You must be able to attend both days and no accommodation is provided, HF Holidays may have B&B availability, please contact them directly on 01855 821357 for details and cost.

Who are you a mock student for?

For our MIC assessment courses. The dates are as follows:

29 Feb & 1 Mar
7 & 8 Mar
14 & 15 Mar

NOVICE PADDLERS BCU-UKCC Level 2 Certificate in Coaching Paddlesport Assessments

We can offer novice and beginners a day's tuition in canoeing and kayaking, a great way to get an introduction to the sport.

What can you expect?

You will be taught the basics of kayaking (closed cockpit) and canoeing (open boat) during a series of sessions throughout the day. Level 2 Coach Candidates will be teaching you,

however all candidates and sessions are supervised by a Plas y Brenin Coach. The content and venue will vary depending on local weather conditions.

What are the Pre-requisites?

- You are willing to learn and prepared to get wet
- You are water confident
- You are fit and capable of spending an entire day under tuition.

Please be honest about your skill level, mock students with too much or too little experience compromise the candidate under assessment.

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring lots of warm clothes and footwear you do not mind getting wet and a complete change of clothes and a towel. You will be able to borrow any canoeing / kayaking kit from our equipment stores.

Please arrive at Plas y Brenin between 8.30am and 8.45am and report to reception. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks. You will then be asked to wait for the course director who will brief you on what will happen during the day.

Who are you a mock student for?

We need paddlers for candidates undergoing their Level 2 in Coaching Paddlesport (kayak and canoe) Assessment courses. The dates are as follows:

4 May
21 Sep
15 Jun

INTERMEDIATE PADDLERS

BCU-UKCC Level 2 Moderate Water Assessments

We can offer competent flat water paddlers the opportunity to gain further experience and develop new skills with a day's tuition.

What can you expect?

You will be expected to paddle all day. The candidates will teach you through a series of sessions throughout the day. All candidates are supervised by a Plas y Brenin Coach. The content and venue will vary depending on local weather conditions.

What are the Pre-requisites?

We need paddlers with good boat handling skills. By that we mean;

- People holding a BCU 3 star award in their discipline would be of an appropriate standard, however the award is not essential.
- For white water kayakers, you will have no or very little white water experience and have reliable support strokes.
- For canoeists, you will have no or very little white water experience and have reliable support strokes.
- For sea kayakers, you will have no or very little experience in a sea kayak and have reliable support strokes.
- You are fit and capable of spending an entire day under tuition.

Please be honest about your skill level, mock students without the necessary skills compromise the candidate under assessment.

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring your own kit if you have it. You will be able to borrow any kit you do not have from our equipment stores. Please arrive at Plas y Brenin between 8.30am and 8.45am and report to reception. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks. You will then be asked to wait for the course director who will brief you on what will happen during the day.

Who are you a mock student for?

We need paddlers for Coaches on BCU Level 2 Moderate Water Assessment courses in open, inland and sea disciplines. The dates are as follows:

White Water Kayak

2 Oct

2 Nov

Canoe

25 May

23 Sep

Sea Kayak

3 Jun

16 Sep

BCU-UKCC Level 3 Certificate in Coaching Paddlesport Discipline Specific Assessments

We can offer competent flat water paddlers the opportunity to gain further experience and develop new skills with a day's tuition.

What can you expect?

You will be expected to paddle all day. Level 3 Coach Assessment candidates will teach you through a series of sessions throughout the day. All candidates are supervised by a Plas y Brenin Coach. The content and venue will vary depending on local weather conditions.

What are the Pre-requisites?

We need paddlers with good boat handling skills. By that we mean;

- People holding a BCU 3 star award in their discipline would be of an appropriate standard, however the award is not essential.
- For white water kayakers, you have limited white water experience and have reliable support strokes.
- For canoeists, you have limited white water experience and have reliable support strokes.
- For sea kayakers, you have limited experience in a sea kayak and have reliable support strokes.
- You are fit and capable of spending an entire day under tuition.

Please be honest about your skill level, mock students without the necessary skills compromise the candidate under assessment.

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring your own kit if you have it. You will be able to borrow any kit you do not have from our equipment stores. Please arrive at Plas y Brenin between 8.30am and 8.45am and report to reception. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks. You will then be asked to wait for the course director who will brief you on what will happen during the day.

Who are you a mock student for?

We need paddlers for level 3 Coach Assessment courses in open, inland and sea disciplines. The dates are as follows:

BCU/UKCC Level 3 WWK

29 Oct

10 Nov

BCU/UKCC Level 3 SK

12 May

BCU/UKCC Level 3 OC

11 May

10 Nov

EXPERIENCED PADDLERS

4 Star Leaders Award Assessments

We need competent paddlers within their discipline for a day of guided paddling for candidates undertaking their 4 Star Assessment. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone considering completing their 4 Star or those preparing for assessment.

What can you expect?

You will be expected to paddle all day. 4 Star Assessment candidates guide you down rivers/on the sea throughout the day. All candidates are supervised by a Plas y Brenin Coach. The content and venue will vary depending on local weather conditions.

What are the pre-requisites?

Sea kayakers

- You are an experienced sea kayaker, are happy paddling in 4 star conditions and are keen for a good day out.
- You are expected to have a reliable roll
- You are able to handle your craft in windy conditions

Open canoeists

- You are an experienced open canoeist and are keen for a good day out.
- You are able to deal with strong winds on open water
- You are able and happy to paddle class 2 white water.

White Water Kayakers

- You are an experienced white water kayaker and are keen for a good day out.
- You will have a reliable roll
- You are able and happy to paddle class 2 white water.

Please be honest about your skill level, mock students without the necessary skills compromise the candidate under assessment.

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring your own kit if you have it. You will be able to borrow any kit you do not have from our equipment stores. Please arrive at Plas y Brenin between 8.30am and 8.45am and report to reception. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks. You will then be asked to wait for the course director who will brief you on what will happen during the day.

Who are you a mock student for?

We need paddlers for 4 Star Assessment courses in open, inland and sea disciplines. The dates are as follows:

White Water Kayak

28 or 29 Jan

8 or 9 Sep

1 or 2 Dec

Canoe

18 or 19 Aug

27 or 28 Oct

Sea Kayak

8 or 9 Sep

27 or 28 Oct

On occasions we may need mock students for both days of the assessment, in which case it will be the day as listed above and the day before.

5 Star Leaders Award Assessments

We need competent paddlers within their discipline for a day of guided paddling for candidates under taking their 5 Star Assessment. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone considering completing their 5 Star or those preparing for assessment.

What can you expect?

You will be expected to paddle all day. 5 Star assessment candidates guide you down rivers/on the sea throughout the day. All candidates are supervised by a Plas y Brenin Coach. The content and venue will vary depending on local weather conditions.

What are the pre-requisites?

Sea kayakers

- You are an experienced sea kayaker, are happy paddling in advanced conditions, tidal races and are keen for a good day out.
- You are expected to have a reliable roll.
- You are able to handle your craft in windy conditions around force 4.

Open canoeists

- You are an experienced open canoeist and are keen for a good day out.
- You are able to deal with strong winds on open water up to force 5.
- You are able and happy to paddle class 3 white water.

White Water Kayakers

- You are an experienced white water kayaker and are keen for a good day out.
- You will have a reliable roll
- You are able and happy to paddle class 3-4 white water.

Please be honest about your skill level, mock students without the necessary skills compromise the candidate under assessment.

What do you need to bring?

You will need to bring your own kit if you have it. You will be able to borrow any kit you do not have from our equipment stores. Please arrive at Plas y Brenin between 8.30am and 8.45am and report to reception. Make sure you bring with you a packed lunch, snacks and drinks. You will then be asked to wait for the course director who will brief you on what will happen during the day.

Who are you a mock student for?

We need paddlers for 5 Star Assessment courses in open, inland and sea disciplines. The dates are as follows:

White Water Kayak

18 or 19 Feb

Canoe

3 or 4 Nov

Sea Kayak

11 or 12 Aug

27 or 28 Oct

On occasions we may need mock students for both days of the assessment, in which case it will be the day as listed above and the day before.