



Adaptive Expeditions

Adaptive Expeditions  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - (Charleston, SC. - Thursday, November 7, 2019)**

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**Press Release:** Adaptive Expeditions in partnership with Disabled Sports USA's Adapt2Achieve Program opens a one month application period for paddlesports organizations throughout the USA to host one of four funded ACA Advanced Communications Instructor Endorsement Workshops (ACW).

The new ACA Advanced Communications Instructor Endorsement (AC-Endorsement) was designed in 2018 to convey effective strategies for teaching and learning, risk assessment and management, and effective facilitation of on-water group dynamics for paddlesports programs to seamlessly include individuals who have vision impairment or blindness, hearing impairment or deafness, as well as speech, language, and/or perceptual impacts from any type of disability. The new AC-Endorsement is distinct from the ACA Adaptive Paddling Instructor Endorsement, which, since 1991, has been the gold-standard curriculum for paddlesports instructors and programs training to seamlessly integrate individuals with physical disabilities into programs.

One three-day ACW will be funded for four selected applicant organizations. The trainings will be held at the home venue of four successful applicants. Each three-day ACW will include eight to ten hours of session-time, split equally each day between classroom based interactive and hands-on skill development followed by on-water implementation and instructor assessment. All four ACW must occur between March 1, 2020 and September 15, 2020.

Successful applicants will be responsible for recruiting ten ACA Instructor Endorsement Candidates, reserving classroom facilities, securing access to the water venue, and arranging use of paddlesports equipment (SUP, sea kayak, or recreation kayak equipment) for up to fourteen individuals.

Apply here: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ACA\\_ACW\\_Host\\_Application](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ACA_ACW_Host_Application)

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## About Adaptive Expeditions

Adaptive Expeditions is an interactive educational nonprofit using sport and recreation to offer health & wellness programs to individuals with physical and sensory disabilities. Through education and outdoor recreation adventures, Adaptive Expeditions empowers individuals with both technical skills and personal confidence to maintain active, independent lifestyles. In our hometown and around the world we help build communities where outdoor adventure seekers and Paralympic hopefuls can share ideas and common experiences, have fun, push limits, and redefine what's possible. For more information visit: <http://adaptiveexpeditions.org/>

## About Disabled Sports USA

Disabled Sports USA is a national, charitable organization that provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities to develop independence, confidence and fitness through participation in sports. What began as a program to serve Vietnam veterans has since grown into one of the nation's largest multi-sport, multi-disability organizations, annually serving more than 60,000 wounded warriors, youth and adults with disabilities. A member of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, Disabled Sports USA offers programs in more than 60 summer and winter sports through its nationwide network of 135 community-based chapters. For more information, visit [www.disabledsportsusa.org](http://www.disabledsportsusa.org).

Adapt2Achieve, a program of Disabled Sports USA (DSUSA), promotes inclusion in sports and recreation by offering customized adaptive sport guidelines and training content for sports and community organizations. Over 100 trainings have been offered since 2009 in more than 31 states across the country.

*Joe Moore, J.D., LL.M.*

Adaptive Expeditions, Executive Director

ACA Adaptive Paddling Committee Past Chair

ACA Advanced Communications Endorsement Project Leader

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