



FLATWATER SUPERVISOR – TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT COURSE

Award Definition:

The Flatwater Supervisor Award is for people seeking professional certification in enclosed flatwater paddling areas perfect for school and group camp style paddling needs.

The Paddle Australian Qualification Scheme (PAQS) is the industry benchmark certification designed to meet the need for paddling qualifications for use in education, recreational and tourism sectors nationwide.

Holders of the Flatwater Supervisor award are qualified to supervise a paddling activity with novice paddlers on flatwater areas such as lakes, dams, slow moving rivers etc. where the group under supervision can always be seen from a single vantage point and does not leave the immediate launch area.

- i.e.: - you are able to impart the skills required for participants to partake in an activity with you, where if anything goes wrong you are there to deal with it.

Pre-Requisites:

- Personal flatwater paddling skills as defined in the PAQS basic skills awards
- Recommended obtaining prior to course:
 - First Aid and CPR certificates (appropriate to your organisations requirements & area of operation)
 - some experience and logged hours working as an assistant or observer under training

Course Description:

- The Paddle Queensland Flatwater Guide Training Course consists of two full days approximately 8:00am to 5:00pm each day
- Participants should expect each day to consist of approximately half a day in a semi classroom-style environment and the other half of each day on the water
- Candidates must be prepared to put their skills into practice and will be required to do some work prior to the course to assist in moving swiftly through the syllabus
- Participants should come prepared for paddling sessions in both the morning and afternoon of the course
- **Please note:**
 - this is a flatwater supervisor training course
 - it is not a skills course
 - candidates are expected to have the personal flatwater skills as identified in the “Basic Skills Award” prior to commencement of the course

Course Cost and Dates:

- Please check <https://qld.paddle.org.au/education/paqs-courses/> for advertised dates and cost.
- Craft & equipment hire available
- Course fee does not include Assessment and Paddle Australia Award Registration Fee
- **Please note:** Courses need to meet minimum registration numbers to run on advertised dates. If sufficient numbers are not registered one week before the program, alternative arrangements will be made with registered participants, including the option for a new date or to pay an additional fee [to meet minimum numbers].

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Course Location/s:

- Paddle Queensland has several venues it uses
- The location of the course will be determined from the location of the course participants, which will determine the final cost of the course and if an additional fee is payable
- Other course locations are available for private groups by negotiation

What I will learn:

- Subject matter that will be covered includes but is not limited to:
 - Safety briefings and equipment
 - Flat water paddling skills
 - PAQS overview
 - Minimal impact practice
 - Knowledge of craft and basic maintenance
 - Safety guidelines, risk management, incident reporting
 - Log books
 - Rescues
 - Paddling games

Paddle Craft:

- You need to determine which craft you will be assessed in, as the award is craft specific.
- If the participants are in canoes, you will need the “Canoe Award”
- If the participants are in kayaks, you will need the “Kayak Award”
- If the participants are in sit-on-tops, you will need the “Sit-on-Top Award”
- You may hold both canoe and kayak awards, however paddling skills, guiding and rescues will need to be assessed in both craft
- **Note:**
 - the “Kayak Award” covers sit-on-tops
 - the “Sit-on-Top Award” does not cover kayaks

Equipment:

- It is expected that participants will supply their own equipment including craft, life jacket and paddle
- Please bring your rescue and safety equipment
- Personal equipment will require a safety check prior to commencement to determine its suitability for the paddling activity
- Paddle clothing, including enclosed footwear needs to be suitable to get wet and swim in, be sun-smart and appropriate for the conditions
- Please also bring
 - lunch, snacks, towel, change of clothing and water bottle
 - chair, clipboard, notebook and pens
 - ruler, pencil, protractor, compass, dividers and calculator



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Assessment:

- Participants are trained and assessed on this program at different stages throughout the program
- The training components will be separate from the assessment components and participants will be advised when they are under assessment conditions
- Assessment components include:
 - skill
 - knowledge
 - experience
 - communication
 - leadership
 - theory
- Complete a written exam
- Complete a written 'Assessment Project'
- Log book requirements:
 - logbooks should be clear, concise and verifiable by a third party
 - for assessment you will need to produce a verified log book showing over the previous three years at least:
 - a minimum of four flatwater activities of at least three hours' paddling duration in the type of craft for which you are being assessed
 - plus a minimum of two flatwater paddling activities of at least one and a half hours duration as an assistant supervisor or an observer under training in the type of craft for which you are being assessed
 - plus a minimum of two flatwater paddling activities of at least one and a half hours duration as lead supervisor under the observation of a qualified supervisor in the type of craft for which you are being assessed
- **Please note:**
 - a candidate is not registered as a Flatwater Supervisor until all components of the registration process are completed and the appropriate fee for registration is paid to Paddle Australia
 - attendance and participation in an assessment is not a guarantee to successful completion of the award

For enquiries contact:

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