

Application Form 2020

* Required

Before starting your application, please read this:

Give yourself about 15 minutes to complete this application. You cannot "save" your answers and return later. It is best completed on a desktop/laptop, not a phone/tablet.

During Open Application, which started December 15, applications will be considered equally, with some priority given to alumni and previously waitlisted applicants.

This period ends on December 29 for Utah and West Virginia, and on January 12 for Alaska, California, and the Rockies. After these dates, applications will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis.

Based on demand expressed during Open Application, I will finalize the schedule, including trip dates, trip types, and intensity levels. By preserving some flexibility at this stage, I can better accommodate everyone.

I will not offer spots on trips until after Open Application is closed. Please be patient while I review applications. I will keep you informed about my progress via email.

Please your \$25 Application Fee before or after completing the Application Form.

Do NOT submit a deposit until you have received a PDF invoice.

To maximize your odds of being offered a spot, please be open to multiple dates, locations, and even trip types. I hope to put each applicant on their First Choice trip, but it's not always possible.

If you are with a group of 2+, please specify the other group members (or the lead member) where asked. Each applicant must submit an application.

Finally, in long-form responses, please do not add line breaks. That is, do NOT write in paragraph form. Instead, use symbols to separate line items, such as * or >. Thanks!

1. Have you read the information above? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Section 1: Personal information

2. Full name *

3. Primary email *

4. Google account email address

If you do not have one, leave blank. Normally ends with [@gmail.com](mailto:), unless you registered an address associated with another email service.

5. Mailing Address - Line 1 *

6. Mailing Address - Line 2

7. City *

8. State (2-letter) *

9. Zip *

10. Country *

Mark only one oval.

USA

Canada

Other:

11. Phone *

12. Age (at time of trip) *

13. Gender *

Mark only one oval.

Male

Female

14. Tell me a few things about yourself. *

Family, career, hobbies, civic organizations, notable talents and personality traits, etc. -- Just a few things to help me paint a more complete picture and to find a great group for you.

15. If you are with a group of 2+, please list the names of other group members.

Section 3: First choices

16. What is your First Choice trip type? *

Mark only one oval.

- Fundamentals
 Adventure
 Expedition

17. What is your First Choice location? *

Please be sure that your First Choice trip type is being offered in your First Choice location.

Mark only one oval.

- Utah
 West Virginia
 Alaska
 California
 Rocky Mountains

18. What is your First Choice trip duration? *

Please be sure that your First Choice trip type and location is being offered in your First Choice duration.

Mark only one oval.

- 3 days
 5 days
 7 days

Section 4: Sessions

19. In what Utah session(s) are you most interested? *

You can select multiple First Choice and/or Second Choices, or Not Interested/Available for all sessions.

Mark only one oval per row.

	First Choice	Second Choice	Not interested
Apr 20-24 (Adventure)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apr 25-29 (Adventure)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. In what West Virginia session(s) are you most interested? *

You can select multiple First Choice and/or Second Choices, or Not Interested/Available for all sessions.

Mark only one oval per row.

	First Choice	Second Choice	Not interested
May 15-17 (Fundamentals)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
May 18-22 (Adventure)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
May 23-25 (Fundamentals)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
May 23-27 (Adventure)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

21. In what Alaska session(s) are you most interested? *

You can select multiple First Choice and/or Second Choices, or Not Interested/Available for all sessions.

Mark only one oval per row.

	First Choice	Second Choice	Not interested
June 15-21 (Expedition)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
June 16-22 (Expedition)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
June 23-29 (Expedition)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
June 24-30 (Expedition)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

22. In what California session(s) are you most interested? *

You can select multiple First Choice and/or Second Choices, or Not Interested/Available for all sessions.

Mark only one oval per row.

	First Choice	Second Choice	Not interested
July 10-12 (Fundamentals)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
July 13-19 (Adventure 7-day)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
July 20-24 (Adventure 5-days)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sep 11-13 (Fundamentals)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sep 14-20 (Adventure 7-day)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sep 21-25 (Adventure 5-day)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

23. In what Rocky Mountain session(s) are you most interested? *

You can select multiple First Choice and/or Second Choices, or Not Interested/Available for all sessions.

Mark only one oval per row.

	First Choice	Second Choice	Not interested
Aug 17-23 (Adventure 7-day)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aug 24-30 (Adventure 7-day)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sep 11-13 (Fundamentals)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sep 14-20 (Adventure 7-day)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sep 21-25 (Adventure 5-day)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Section 5: Experience

24. Have you taken a trip with us before? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I applied but was waitlisted
- I applied but cancelled

25. For how many total days have you been backpacking? *

Mark only one oval.

- Less than 10
- 10 to 50
- More than 50

26. How would you describe your backpacking skill set? *

Mark only one oval.

- Limited
- Competent
- Robust

27. How would you describe your backpacking gear? *

Mark only one oval.

- In early stages
- Functional
- Nearly perfect

28. Share your most notable backpacking trips. *

Include details like the location, duration, daily mileage and vertical gain, any off-trail travel, and your effort (easy, moderate, hard). If you are new to backpacking, please describe your general outdoor experience (e.g. day-hiking, car-camping, trail running, hunting, fishing).

29. What are your goals in taking a trip with us? *

Section 6: Fitness

30. With what trip intensity will you be most comfortable? *

Refer to <https://andrewskurka.com/guided-trips/trip-intensities-training-tips/>

Mark only one oval.

- I don't know
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very High

31. About how many miles per day can you sustainably hike? *

Assume a 2-night trip in hilly/rolling terrain near sea level.

Mark only one oval.

- I don't know
- 10 miles or less
- 12.5 miles
- 15 miles
- 17.5 miles
- 20 miles or more

32. About how many vertical feet per day can you sustainably climb? *

Assume a 2-night trip in mountainous terrain, ideally at high altitudes (8-12k). Also assume that you must descend as many vertical feet you as gain. For context, 100 flight of "stairs" (measured with a fitness tracker) is 1,000 to 1,200 vertical feet.

Mark only one oval.

- I don't know
- 1,500 feet
- 2,500 feet
- 3,250 feet
- 4,000+ feet

33. Relative to your peers, what is your fitness level? *

Mark only one oval.

- Below average
- Average
- Above average
- Way above average

34. Body height (in inches, not feet+inches) *

35. Body weight (in pounds) *

36. Describe your average weekly physical activity and any notable athletic achievements. *

How often and for how long do you hike/walk, run, bike, lift weights, swim, etc.? In races or competitive events, how did you perform?

37. If your fitness may dramatically change before the start of the trip, please explain.

Section 7: Misc

38. Would you like a/another copy of The Ultimate Hiker's Gear Guide? *

If you are a new client: you will be mailed the Second Edition. If you are an alumni: request a copy if you have the First Edition, if you've gifted your copy, or if you'd like to gift a copy.
Mark only one oval.

- I'm a new client.
- I'm an alumni, and would like another copy.
- I'm an alumni, and don't need a copy.

39. How did you first learn about me? *

E.g. Internet search, word of mouth, Ultimate Hiker's Gear Guide, high route guide book, in-person presentation or clinic, YouTube, magazine, podcast, Reddit, etc. If it was from another guide, please specify.

40. How did you first learn about my guided trips? *

E.g. AndrewSkurka.com, internet search, word of mouth, Ultimate Hiker's Gear Guide, high route guide book, in-person presentation or clinic, YouTube, magazine, podcast, etc. If it was from another guide, please specify.

41. Is there anything pertaining to your application that you want to tell me?
