

ACA Coastal Kayak Skill Assessment – Level 4

Thoughts

How can I be sure I am ready for an open water crossing or a multiday trip? Am I resourceful in remote areas and demanding conditions? This assessment will validate and certify your ACA Level-4 Kayak skills.



Prerequisites: ACA membership, recent ACA L4 skills classes or equivalent skills, Level 4 trip log

Next Step: ACA Level 5 classes

Topics Covered

Candidates will demonstrate all level-3 requirements under more demanding ocean conditions including open water, wind to 16 knots, surf to 3 feet and current to 3 knots. They will demonstrate seamanship in open water, launch and land in surf, and safely navigate active boat channels. Please visit www.AmericanCanoe.org for further details and current requirements.

Details and Requirements

Minimum of 4 candidates are required for this full day Assessment. Please arrive early, fully prepared. Candidates are expected to demonstrate self-reliance and leadership, group management and competency with their own equipment. Those receiving approval will show mastery of all required skills including multiple rolling methods in open conditions. Candidates may also be continued or declined based on performance as covered at the debriefing.

Basic Equipment includes a properly outfitted kayak with paddle and related safety equipment for self and group including PFD, spray skirt, paddle float, pump and sling, group first aid kit, tow belt and helmet. Equipment can be provided, but it is expected to use your own.

Personal includes immersion clothing suited to season and conditions: wetsuit & paddle top, drysuit etc. Nose-clips or earplugs are acceptable, though generally not required. Other items of personal responsibility include: sunglasses, sunscreen, hat with visor, bug repellent and spare (dry) clothing. In cooler weather or on windy days a wind breaker may also offer comfort.

NOTE: We are not responsible for lost or damaged personal items. Plan to leave electronics on shore or properly stowed. Plan for personal care of prescription glasses, hats and other personal items.

Special Requirements

Please bring high energy, good attitude and a spirit of adventure. In order to best serve you please advise us of any personal issues when registering so that we can prepare in advance for special paddling equipment. Let us know in confidence of any medical issues prior to the start of class. We can accommodate most concerns.

Costs and Fees

Class Fee	Boat and Gear Rental	ACA Assessment Card
Inquire	Available, inquire	Included if successful