



Summary - Ski/Splitboard Programs

- Elevation range: Rocky Mountain courses: 8,000-13,000 ft
- Elevation gain: 1500 - 3000 ft daily
- Travel distances: 3-5 miles daily
- Experience and competency on touring skis or splitboard with ~30lb pack is required

Course Location: [Leadville, CO](#), at the [Colorado Mountain College - Leadville Campus](#)

Lodging and food are not included in the course cost. There are several lodging, grocery options in the town of Leadville. Due to weather and road conditions students should plan to stay in Leadville.

AIARE will plan for all of our classroom sessions to take place in person, however, there is a chance the classroom portion will be conducted virtually due to COVID-19. If a move from in-person classroom sessions to virtual classroom sessions happens, we will notify you as soon as possible. Due to the uncertainties and many factors involved we ask for your flexibility and willingness to adapt. For the duration of the course, you should stay somewhere that has reliable internet that can withstand Zoom meetings. Please read our [COVID-19 Course Disclosure](#) prior to enrollment.

During the course you will transition between field and classroom sessions and while the classroom is within walking distance to some of the field locations and backcountry terrain, you will be required to commute up to 45 minutes to trailheads on several days.

This is a time-intensive course and you should be prepared, mentally and physically, for long days (up to ten hours) in the field and in the classroom. All students must meet AIARE's [Essential Eligibility](#) requirements in order to participate.

Environment

Weather can be highly variable from sunshine to snow and/or rain and temperatures can be sub-zero degrees Fahrenheit. Because of the environmental factors, you must be able to practice self-care that minimizes the possibility of hypothermia, frostbite and non-freezing cold injury.

Terrain

Travel requires moving in mountainous terrain and variable snow conditions, both uphill and downhill on skis (AT or telemark) or splitboards efficiently by ascending 900-1200 ft/hour.

Equipment

Participating in an AIARE course requires modern, well maintained backcountry and rescue gear. Bringing old, or marginally functioning gear is a detriment to the learning environment and could negatively affect the safety of the group. Please review our [PRO Course Equipment List](#) for more details.