

SEM Hike Leadership Requirements

Class 1 Leader (hikes with little or no elevation change, easy terrain, generally 8 miles or less, e.g. Borderland State Park; including snowshoe trips within the Southeast, MA territory and surrounding areas with Chair approval)

- Two co-leads
- Works with leader to plan first co-led hike, takes full charge of the second hike including trip planning, screening, and group management
- Must take a leadership-training course provided by SEM or another chapter
- First-aid training is highly recommended
- Written recommendation of at least two SEM hike leaders

Class 2 Leader (day hikes with significant elevation change, all types of terrain, generally 8 miles or more, e.g. a 4000 footer in the NH White Mountains):

- Three co-leads of which two must be in area the person intends to lead - assists leader in planning the second hike, takes full charge of third hike including trip planning, screening, and group management.
- Must take a leadership-training course provided by SEM or another chapter.
- Wilderness first aid training every two years, with a one-year grace period
- AMC Mountain Leadership School recommended but not required
- Written recommendation of at least two Class 2 SEM hike leaders

Class 3 Leader (backpacks that include at least one 3-season overnight, all types of terrain)

- Achieve and maintain Class 2 leader status
- Two backpack co-leads
- Works with leader to plan first co-led backpack, takes full charge of the second backpack including trip planning, screening, and group management
- Wilderness first aid training every two years, with a one-year grace period
- AMC Mountain Leadership School recommended but not required
- Written recommendation of at least two Class 3 SEM hike leaders

Class 4 Leader (winter day hikes, all types of terrain, including snowshoe hikes)

- Achieve and maintain Class 2 leader status
- Winter hiking training course
- Serves as “leader in training” for two winter hikes
- Two winter co-leads
- Works with leader to plan first co-led winter hike, takes full charge of the second winter hike including trip planning, screening, and group management
- Wilderness first aid training every two years, with a one-year grace period
- AMC Mountain Leadership School recommended but not required
- Recommendation of at least two Class 4 SEM hike leaders

Class 5 Leader (winter overnights, all types of terrain)

- Achieve and maintain Class 4 leader status
- Two winter co-leads
- Works with leader to plan first co-led overnight hike, take full of the second winter overnight hike including trip planning, screening and group management
- AMC Mountain Leadership School recommended but not required
- Written recommendation of at least two Class 3 or 4 SEM hike leaders

After the requirements for a desired class are satisfied, the candidate should submit a letter (or email) to the hiking chair that lists their experience and the items satisfying the requirements. Similar experience and training may be substituted at the discretion of the hiking chair.