

Ski Patrol Gear List

Ski patrol students usually own some ski related equipment and some items can be purchased second hand. This means individual spend on equipment can vary considerably. For this reason, prices are not included in this document. It is **IMPORTANT** to have equipment by due date. **You won't be able to be involved on relevant activity without it.**

Seek out well informed and knowledgeable staff in reputable shops for additional advice.

Some suppliers in the Southern Lakes region are MT Outdoors, Racers edge, Outside Sports, Small Planet. Some retailers offer a discount to students who show their student Tai Poutini Polytechnic ID card.

There are equipment and clothing deals to be gained through internet shopping (Canada and USA). We strongly recommend you don't buy a transceiver from overseas. If it needs repair, you won't be able to take part in field training until its return (usually weeks later).

Needed by	Item	Requirements and helpful notes	Additional comments
First day of program	Avalanche transceiver	Any 3 antennae digital transceiver with mark function. Safety consequences mean we DO NOT recommend using a second hand transceiver.	Student to provide https://beaconreviews.com/transceiver_reviews.php
First day of program	Tramping or alpine boots	Sturdy ankle supporting boot and soles for steep and slippery snow and ice conditions.	Student to provide
First day of program	Head torch	Required for entire programme.	Student to provide
First day of program	Compass	The more expensive ones can be used as an inclinometer as well, but a basic one will be fine.	Student to provide
Early March	Texts	Staying alive in avalanche terrain. Author Bruce Tremper and published by The Mountaineers books.	TPP has a limited supply for loan. Owning a copy is good.
Early March	Texts	NZ Guidelines to Weather, Snow pack and Avalanche Observations.	TPP provides
Early March	Alpine clothing	Storm proof over pants (patrollers wear black or dark and it is their preference you do when you are on work placement) and jacket, thermal layering (no cotton).	Student to provide
Early March	Repair kit and watch	Multi tool, whistle, ski straps, cable ties, duct tape, and watch (needs to read seconds).	Student to provide
Mid-March	Water proof notebook	TPP will have this ready for you on campus.	TPP will supply
Mid-March	Patrol pack	35-40 litre. Needs to be robust, water proof and include compartments for collapsible probe and shovel.	Student to provide

Early March	Collapsible probe	Any leading brand. Minimum length 2.4 meters long. Can get a 3 meter one if you want. Good features include fast to put together and ruler measures along its length.	Student to provide
Early March	Collapsible snow shovel	Any leading brand with <u>extendable</u> handle. Plastic is not acceptable.	Student to provide
Early April	Snow profile note book	TPP will have this ready for you on campus.	TPP will supply
Mid April	Snow saw	@ least 35cm long (not including the handle).	Student to provide
Early May	Snow profile kit	Grain grid, magnifying loupe (x10), snow thermometer, two metre folding builder's ruler. Small bunch coffee stirring sticks and preferred but not compulsory is an inclinometer.	TPP will supply for period of the course
Early May	Ski or Snowboard helmet	Compulsory. Needs to fit for purpose and have a clean history (eg, no major impacts) will be inspected by Tutors.	Student to provide
Mid May	Skis and bindings	As long as the ski is 96 under foot, anything will work. The cheapest binding option is one set of skis with "hybrid" bindings. These "hybrids" are robust for ski area downhill skiing mode but are heavier than regular touring bindings. Eg salomon shift, marker duke PT 12 etc. Otherwise have one set of downhill and a set of touring skis with a tech binding (pin binding)	Student to provide
Mid May	Ski Boots	We recommend one pair of ski touring boots to do everything in. If you have a downhill binding set up, it needs to be compatible with a touring boot. BOOTS ARE THE MOST KEY PIECE OF GEAR!! FIT IS EVERYTHING!	Student to provide
Mid May	Snowboard	You will need a split board + crampons for the board when it is in touring mode (snow shoes are not acceptable). Along with a board for ski area days.	Student to provide
Mid May	Touring skins	Lots of options, ensure they are fitted correctly to skis.	Student to provide
Mid May	Ski Poles	They are work tools and get treated roughly.	Student to provide
Mid May	Ski poles for split boarding	Need to be collapsible to fit onto a backpack when traveling in the back country.	Snowboarding student to supply
Mid May	Snowboard boots	Foot crampon compatible with decent stiff sole.	Snowboarding student to supply

When students arrive on campus, tutors will "show and tell" their own equipment and discussions can be held about various equipment purchase options.