

## EXAM STANDARDS AND SUPPORT

### We continue to invest in exam support and the results show it.

Western's exam process is more consistent, more transparent, and better supported than at any point in the region's history. The goal was never just higher pass rates – it is a more transparent, more accessible, and more nationally aligned path for candidates at every level. The data shows a region that holds itself accountable and delivers on that commitment.

**Investment in Examiner training:** Mandatory paid training hours rose from **0 hrs** in 2021 to **21 hrs** in 2025 plus an additional **54 hrs** of optional on-snow development available for staff. Training pathways built to support staff needs were complemented by weekly discussions to support real-time exam concerns.

#### **Fewer inconsistent Examiners – confirmed by two independent systems:**

Confirmed instances of noncompliant exams dropped: **11** in 2023 → **5** in 2024 → **0** in 2025. In 2026, 2 complaints related to exam inconsistency were filed – the lowest total in the region's modern history – and upon investigation, 0 examiners were found to be delivering noncompliant or inconsistent exams.

**Candidate preparation expanding:** Western delivered 55 exam prep courses serving 462 candidates in 25/26, compared to 26 events serving 155 members in 22/23 – giving candidates structured preparation aligned directly to current standards.

**Certification pursuit remains strong:** Despite the evolving assessment processes and a dramatic expansion in education-only programming, members continue to pursue certifications at a consistent (per capita) rate. Registrations held steady – 830 in 2021 to 928 in 2026.

**Growing engagement:** The number of unique members participating in at least one event rose from **40%** in 20/21 to **48%** in 25/26. During that same time, the number of inactive members decreased from **967** in 2021 to **440** in 2026.

## WHY THIS MATTERS

The data confirms a region that looks for what needs work, invests in solutions, and measures the results. Ends reporting documented the 24/25 season as the Western Region's strongest exam alignment yet – the most consistent passing rates, examiner performance, and candidate experiences ever recorded across candidates, disciplines, and events.

**That is not the finish line. It is the new standard.**