



To: Ice Rescue and Emergency Response Instructor Candidates
From: Chris A. Calhoun – Course Coordinator
Date: 11/7/2025
Re: Course Information and Registration Form

Training Course Overview:

This two-day course will instruct the student how to teach the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) Ice Rescue and Emergency Response – NFPA 1670 Technician level water rescue curriculum. This 16-hour course is designed to provide rescue personnel with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively evaluate and respond to ice-related emergencies. Participants will learn how to identify various ice conditions, use ice rescue equipment, and practice essential shore, boat, ice based, and direct contact ice rescue techniques. Emphasizing safety protocols, efficient communication strategies, and decision-making, this comprehensive training will prepare rescuers to respond to the challenges of ice rescue situations. They must also demonstrate all practical skills at **technician instructor** level proficiency.

Dates and Times: January 24-25, 2026

- 1/24/2026 (Saturday) – Classroom and pool session (**Start time 8:00 am**)
- 1/25/2026 (Sunday) – Classroom and outdoor practical

Location of Training:

- PFBC Regional Office – 595 East Rolling Ridge Drive - Bellefonte, PA 16823

Course Cost:

PA Resident - \$450	Out-of-State - \$550
Lodging and meals are not included in the cost. Participants are responsible for arranging their own accommodations in the Bellefonte/Penn State area.	

Student Prerequisites:

- Water Rescue and Emergency Response Instructor
- Ice Rescue and Emergency Response (basic) or equivalent nationally recognized ice rescue training program
- CPR and first aid training
- Teaching experience in EMS, rescue, fire, or similar discipline
- **Copies of certifications must be included with application**

Swim Test Standard

- 100 yards unaided swim – any stroke (should demonstrate all four strokes) – 6 minutes
- 100 yards full clothed (long pants and T- shirt) and PFD and helmet – 8 minutes
- Tread water – 10 minutes

Health and Safety Plan – Information will be provided prior to training. Plan will follow universal health mandates and guidelines at time of training.

Hazards of Training:

Students must be prepared to engage in strenuous activities in **extreme weather and water conditions**. Students must be able to swim. If a student has a known medical condition that could foreseeably jeopardize his/her safety during participation or be aggravated by participation, **the student should not participate**.

WATER HAZARDS - cold, deep, and ice covered - water obstructions (i.e. rocks, strainers, free floating debris, etc.) - other water users – please be courteous.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS - Uneven walking surface, loose debris, snow- and ice-covered shoreline, slippery rocks, steep slopes, poisonous plants, animals, insects, traffic.

WEATHER HAZARDS: Temperature – hot (hyperthermia) or cold (hypothermia) - storms – lightening (all training will stop until storm has passed). Students will be directed to shelter. Rain, snow or hail may or may not stop training exercise. Weather emergencies will be handled at the discretion of the instructor/trainers. Sun exposure (risk of sunburn).

Student Equipment Requirements:

- Customized US Coast Guard approved PFD with knife, 2 locking carabineers and whistle
- Water rescue helmet - **must provide front, side, and back of head protection**
- Appropriate thermal protection for weather and environmental conditions: **Mandatory – Dry suit or ice rescue suit.** Thermal layering under dry suit - inner wicking material (i.e. polypropylene) - Middle insulation material (i.e. polyester)
- Pool session clothing - swim suit and towel
- Hand protection - neoprene gloves and winter gloves
- Feet protection – appropriate thermal protection for snow and ice conditions - ice cleats recommended
- Straps for glasses
- Fluids (water or sports drink) and food (high energy snacks)
- Sunscreen – SPF 30 minimum recommended
- Personal items (first aid needs (i.e. inhalers, epi pen), hygiene items, etc.)
- Gear bag to hold wet items

If you have any questions regarding the training, please contact me at 724.287.8711 ext. 8238 or by email chris.calhoun@bc3.edu (include in the subject line of the email **water rescue training** – I will not open email from unknown senders because of email virus concerns).



NON-CREDIT REGISTRATION FORM
(PLEASE PRINT)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MI
STREET ADDRESS		CITY
STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTY OF RESIDENCE
DATE OF BIRTH		SEX M/F
()		()
HOME PHONE		WORK PHONE
E-MAIL ADDRESS (RECEIVE SCHEDULE UPDATES/EVENT NEWS)		

SIGNATURE	DATE
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IS THIS YOUR FIRST CLASS AT BCCC? ☐ YES ☐ NO

ARE YOU A PERMANENT* RESIDENT OF PA? ☐ YES ☐ NO
(*LIVED IN PA FOR THE LAST 12 MONTHS)

PLEASE ENROLL ME IN THE FOLLOWING NONCREDIT COURSE/WORKSHOP/SEMINAR

	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE
	Instate: 160038 / 51629	PA RESIDENT: Ice Rescue and Emergency Response Inst. January 24-25, 2026
	Out-of-State 160038 / 51630	OUT-OF-STATE: Ice Rescue and Emergency Response Inst. January 24-25, 2026

Attached is my check payable to BC3 **Out-of-State \$550** (check made payable to BC3)
PA Resident \$450.00

Charge to my: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Card ☐ American Express
Account Number _____
Expiration Date _____
Signature _____

Send all pre-requisite information and payments to:

Butler County Community College
Attn: Maria Chvala
PO Box 1203
Butler, PA 16003-1203
Phone: 724.287.8711 ext. 8355 Fax: 724.284.8548
Email: maria.chvala@bc3.edu

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