To: Advanced Line Systems Rescue Instructor Candidates

From: Chris A. Calhoun – Course Coordinator

Date: 9/16/2026

Re: Course Information and Registration Form

Dates, Times, and Location of Training:
October 28-29, 2026

- Wednesday– Classroom, pool session, and outdoor practical – start time 8:00 am
- Thursday – Classroom and outdoor practical – end time 5:00 pm

Training Course Overview:
This two-day course will instruct the student how to teach the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) Advanced Line Systems Rescue curriculum.

Course Description: Advanced Line Systems Rescue course trains rescue personnel in direct contact rescue techniques using swift water rescue vests and complex rope rescue systems that expose personnel to potentially life-threatening hazards. These systems should only be used when lower risk options have been exhausted and the team has the training, equipment, and skills to utilize these techniques. The systems taught in the course require rescue personnel to:

- Select the appropriate system or technique for the situation.
- Establish and operate the system.
- Affect the rescue or recovery.
- Tear down the system.

Classroom and practical hands-on training include knot tying, webbing and rope anchor techniques, static line systems such as the moveable control point (MCP), methods of mechanical advantage, tension diagonal (zip line) and direct contact rescue techniques using swift water rescue vests. Students must demonstrate competency in the classroom, pool, and outdoor practical sessions.

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

Note: PA State Fire Academy Basic Ropes and Rigging course highly recommended additional training.

Student Course Prerequisites Include:

- Water Rescue and Emergency Response Instructor - Advanced Line Systems Rescue (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 sent with application.

Instructor Prerequisites:
Swim 200 yards without a PFD in 12 minutes or less using the following strokes:

- 100 yards American Crawl stroke or free style (aggressive swimming position)
- 50 yards Breast
- 50 yards Side
- **Tread water – 10 minutes**

Note: swimming proficiency/testing evaluated at the pool session on day 1. **If unable to pass swim test, student WILL NOT be permitted to participate in day 2 of training. Please train and condition prior to the course!!!**

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 swift water with obstructions (i.e. rocks, strainers, free-floating debris, etc.)
- Other water users (fishing and boating) – please be courteous.

Environmental Hazards:

- Uneven walking surface, slippery rocks and shoreline, steep slopes and loose debris
- Poisonous plants, animals, and 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 – risk of sunburn – wear sunscreen

Student Equipment Requirements:

- Customized U. S. Coast Guard approved PFD **Swift Water Rescue Vest** 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 (Note: cold water exposure, immersion, survival, and ice rescue suits are prohibited for moving water) - 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 for rope work – neoprene with reinforced palms and/or leather gloves
- Feet protection – river sneakers or water rescue boots with synthetic or wool blend socks
- Straps for glasses

- Fluids (water or sports drink) and food (high energy snacks)
- Sun screen – SPF 30 minimum recommended
- Personal items (first aid needs (i.e. inhalers, EpiPen, hygiene items, etc.)
- Gear bag and large garbage bag to hold wet items

If you have any questions regarding the training, please contact me at 724.991.1003 (cell phone) 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).

Lodging and Meals: Candidates Responsibilities

Location of Training:

Classroom: Montgomery County Public Safety Training Campus 1175 Conshohocken Rd Conshohocken PA 19428.
Pool: TBA • **Upper Merion High School – BASED UPON SCHOOL SCHEDULE/EVENTS** • 465 Crossfield Rd King of Prussia PA 19406
Outdoor Practical-Flat Rock Dam (off the Schuylkill Expressway in Lower Merion Township, PA 19127) Nearest Street Address & Coordinates for offsite parking 40 River Road, Gladwyne, PA 19035 Lat & Long 40.043015 – 75.252262 USNG 18T VK 78489 32549

Lodging Recommendations:

Hotel	Address
The Alloy King of Prussia – a DoubleTree by Hilton	301 W. DeKalb Pike, King of Prussia, PA 19406
Residence Inn Philadelphia Conshohocken	191 Washington Street, Conshohocken, PA 19428 2nd closest
Hampton Inn Philadelphia/Plymouth Meeting	2055 Chemical Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
SpringHill Suites Philadelphia Plymouth Meeting	430 Plymouth Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

BUTLER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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**

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: 160013 / 52985	**PA RESIDENT: Advance Line Systems Rescue Instructor**
	Out-of-State 160013 / 52986	**OUT-OF – STATE: Advanced Line Systems Rescue Instructor**

_____PA Resident $450.00 **____Out-of-State $550.00 (check made payable to BC3)**
_____Attached is my check payable to BC3 **____Attached is my check payable to BC3**
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

03/05 BC3 IS AN EOE/AA INSTITUTION