

# Instruction for EU and EEA\* Citizens

\*EEA: Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway, Switzerland

Mountain Leaders may opt to request an authorization to work in Italy as an 'Accompagnatore di media montagna', a regulated profession, on a temporary or a permanent basis. Temporary authorization is only available to professionals holding a certification obtained in an EU or EEA country, or a UK diploma obtained before Brexit.

An application must be filed with the Italian Government's Sports Dept. - see <https://www.sport.governo.it/it/attivita-internazionale/recognition-of-professional-qualifications/other-professional-qualifications/>.

Once the application is filed, the government office sends it to CoNaGAI for evaluation. See the related information on the CoNaGAI website at <https://www.guidealpine.it/MOBILITY%20eng.%20jun2022.pdf>.

Upon receiving the green light from CoNaGAI, the Sports Dept. issues an official decree verifying the applicant's credentials, which is sent to the applicant and published on its website.

Applicants who obtain a temporary authorization will be automatically listed in a 'Foreign Professional Register' kept by CoNaGAI (12 months authorization); applicants for permanent establishment shall register with a regional branch of CoNaGAI ('Collegio Regionale Guide Alpine'), and comply with all relevant Italian immigration and tax requirements.

Because the profession of IML is not contemplated under Italian law, if the application is accepted, the applicant becomes recognized in Italy as an Accompagnatore di media montagna (AmM), a regulated profession – with all the limitations set forth by Italian law n. 6 of 1989. In particular, AmMs are not authorised to lead snowshoeing tours, and work on terrains requiring mountaineering equipment, such as rope, ice axe and crampons.

## Autonomous regions

Those IMLs who wish to work in the autonomous regions of Valle d'Aosta, Alto Adige / Südtirol, or Trentino, must follow a different procedure, as autonomous regions have their own laws and regulations with respect to tourism professions.

**Valle d'Aosta:** since 2003, the region has instituted the profession of 'guida escursionistica naturalistica' (hiking and nature guide). Those guides are authorised to lead snowshoeing tours. Its government has advised that foreign mountain leaders can work temporarily in the regional territory without any formality, including on snow covered terrain. IMLs are required to carry their professional credentials and proof of insurance.

**Alto Adige/South Tyrol:** Refer to [https://www.provincia.bz.it/it/servizi-a-z.asp?bnsv\\_svid=1033604](https://www.provincia.bz.it/it/servizi-a-z.asp?bnsv_svid=1033604) for information on how to obtain permission to work on a temporary or permanent basis (there is a pdf with info in English). Under current regulations (Delibera Provincia di Bolzano n. 629 of 14.06.2016), mountain leaders can lead on winter terrain morphologically not subject to avalanche risk, and not requiring mountaineering equipment or techniques.

**Trentino (Provincia Autonoma di Trento):** Refer to [http://www.turismo.provincia.tn.it/professioni\\_turistiche/accompagnatore\\_di\\_media\\_montagna/acc territorio titoli esteri/](http://www.turismo.provincia.tn.it/professioni_turistiche/accompagnatore_di_media_montagna/acc territorio titoli esteri/) for information on how to obtain permission to work on a temporary or permanent basis (there are two pdf's with info in English). Under current regulations, mountain leaders are not allowed to lead snowshoeing tours.

## Instruction for Non-EU and non-European Economic Area (EEA) citizens

Source: <https://www.guidealpine.it/mobility.html> (Dec.2022)

Professionals holding a certification obtained in an EU country as well as in a non-EU and non-EEA country may be entitled to the following:

- permanent establishment\* ONLY: request for the recognition of the qualification sent to the Italian Government's Sports Department, and subsequent registration in the list of a selected Regional/Provincial Association of Alpine Guides;
- temporary practice: NOT APPLICABLE.

\* verify other legal obligations

In case you find information that is incorrect or you have another experience, please send an email to [secretary@uimla.org](mailto:secretary@uimla.org) or leave a reply at the bottom of this page:  
<https://uimla.org/mobility-rules/>.