# Health Form

For NOLS Office Use Only  
- Initial Review OK  
- Detailed Review OK  
- Check Further

Date ____ / ____ / ____  
AO Initials ___________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Name</th>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Application ID#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Daytime or Temporary Phone (circle one)  
(_____) _______________________________  
Permanent Phone  
(_____) _______________________________

Sex  
- Female  
- Male  
Age__________  
NOLS Grad  
- Non Grad

## NOLS Expedition Information for the Medical Professional

National Outdoor Leadership School courses are wilderness expeditions operating in remote areas of the world where evacuation to modern medical facilities may take days. There is a detailed course description for every course found here: [http://www.nols.edu/courses/](http://www.nols.edu/courses/)

### Living conditions

While participating on a NOLS expedition, students will sleep outdoors, experience long and physically demanding days, set up their own camp and prepare their own meals. Weather conditions can be extreme depending on the course type. Each student is expected to take good care of him or herself. On some courses, students may have the option to fast.

### Physical demands

on the applicant are considerable. Backpacking courses require carrying a backpack that may weigh up to 60 pounds or more over rough and rugged mountainous terrain. Water-based courses require sitting and paddling continuously for long periods of time and walking on rugged shorelines while carrying heavy items.

### Water disinfection

NOLS disinfects all wilderness water with chlorine, chlorine dioxide, or by boiling. Not all of these methods are effective against cryptosporidium. Immunocompromised people may wish to obtain an appropriate water filter for their course.

NOLS is not a rehabilitation program. NOLS is not the place to quit smoking, drinking, or drugs or to work through behavioral or psychological problems.

Prior physical conditioning and a positive attitude are a necessity. Students find a NOLS course to be an extremely demanding experience both physically and emotionally.

In the interest of the personal safety of both the applicant and the other expedition members, please consider the questions carefully when completing the health form. A “Yes” answer does not automatically cancel a student’s enrollment. If we have any question on the student’s capacity to successfully complete the course we will call the student to discuss it.
The applicant is not accepted on the course until the health form has been reviewed and approved by NOLS admissions personnel.

Your detailed comments will expedite our review of this form.

M.D., D.O., F.N.P., APRN or P.A.:
Please check YES or NO for each item. Each question must be answered and please provide date and details for all "yes" answers.

General Medical History
Does the applicant currently have or have a history of:

1. Respiratory problems? Asthma?
   - Is the asthma well controlled with an inhaler?
     - If so, please have the student bring one or more metered dose inhalers (MDI) with them for their course and an aerochamber/spacer is recommended.
     - What triggers an attack? Last episode? Ever Hospitalized?
     - _______________________

2. Gastrointestinal disturbances?
3. Diabetes?

Examiner’s specific comments: _______________________

4. Bleeding, DVT (deep vein thrombosis) or blood disorders?
5. Hepatitis or other liver disease?

Examiner’s specific comments: _______________________

6. Neurological problems? Epilepsy?
7. Seizures?
8. Dizziness / vertigo or fainting episodes?
9. Migraines? Medications, frequency, are they debilitating?

6-9. Describe frequency, date of last episode, and severity.

10. Disorders of the urinary or reproductive tract?
11. Any disease?
12. Does this person see a medical or physical specialist of any kind?
   (provide name/address)
   - If "yes" please specify the issue(s)
Questions 13 and 14 Are For Female Students Only:

13. Treatment or medication for menstrual cramps?  □ YES  □ NO
14. Is she pregnant?  □ YES  □ NO
Examiner’s specific comments:
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Cardiac History:
15. Any history of cardiac illness or significant risk factors, such as known coronary artery
disease, hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, angina, tachycardia, bradycardia,
unexplained chest pain or immediate family history of early cardiac death (<50 years old)?  □ YES  □ NO

Depending on the applicant’s history, risk factors and age, a stress ECG or waiver from their
cardiologist may be required.
Examiner’s specific comments:
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Muscle/Skeletal Injuries/Fractures
Does the applicant currently have or does he/she have a history within the past 3 years of:

16. Knee, hip or ankle injuries (including sprains) and/or surgery?  □ YES  □ NO
• Type of injury or surgery? When did the injury or surgery occur? ______________
• Is there full ROM? Full Strength?  □ YES  □ NO
• What is the most rigorous activity participated in since the injury/surgery. Results? ______

Examiner’s specific comments: (include date of last occurrence and the effect of the problem on current activity level)
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

17. Shoulder, arm or back injuries (including sprains) and/or surgery?  □ YES  □ NO
• Type of injury or surgery? When did the injury or surgery occur? ______________
• Is there full ROM? Full Strength?  □ YES  □ NO
• What is the most rigorous activity participated in since the injury/surgery. Results?

Examiner’s specific comments: (include date of last occurrence and the effect of the problem on current activity level) __________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Medical 3.2016
© 2015 National Outdoor Leadership School
18. Any other joint problems?  

Examiner’s specific comments: (include date of last occurrence and the effect of the problem on current activity level)  

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

19. Head Injury? Loss of consciousness? For how long?  

Examiner’s specific comments: (include date of last occurrence and the effect of the problem on current activity level)  

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

20. Does the applicant have any physical, cognitive, sensory, or emotional condition that would require consideration?  

If yes, please describe how the condition affects you:  

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Mental Health

Students with a history of psychotherapy that required medication or has included hospitalization or residential treatment, need to be in a period of stability ranging from six months to two years, depending on the condition, before they will be accepted for a course. Applicants need to be gainfully occupied such as attending school or employed. NOLS is not appropriate for applicants just leaving residential treatment facilities.

21. Has he/she had psychotherapy?  

22. Is he/she currently in treatment or psychotherapy?  

23. Reasons for treatment or therapy?

- suicide
- substance abuse/chemical dependency
- eating disorder (anorexia/bulimia)
- academic/career/family issues
- ADD/ADHD
- anxiety
- depression
- other  

Please Provide Specific Dates and Details of psychotherapy and medications that were prescribed:  

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

24. Name and telephone number of psychotherapist?

________________________________________________________________________

(_______)_____________
Allergies
25. Is he/she allergic to or have a medically related intolerance to any food?  ☐YES ☐NO

Describe:__________________________________________________________________________________

26. Does he/she have any dietary preferences?  ☐YES ☐NO
(NOLS may not be able to accommodate all preferences)

Describe__________________________________________________________________________________

27. Has he/she had any systemic allergic reactions to insects, bee/wasp stings, or medications
resulting in hives, swelling of face/lips or difficulty breathing?  ☐YES ☐NO

If appropriate please bring a personal supply of epinephrine, preferably in a pre-loaded
autoinjector, and know how to use it.
Examiner's specific comments: ________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

28. Any other allergies?  ☐YES ☐NO
Examiners Specific Comments: ________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

29. Does this person plan to take any prescription or non-prescription medications on the
course?  ☐YES ☐NO

NOLS courses travel in remote areas where access to medical care may be one or more
days away. The student must understand the use of any prescription medications they
may be taking. Written specific instructions are necessary. All students who are required
by their personal physician, psychiatrist or health care provider to take prescription
medications on a regular basis must be able to do so on their own and without
supervision or assistance from NOLS staff.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medication</th>
<th>Dosage</th>
<th>Side Effects/Restrictions</th>
<th>Prescribed by?</th>
<th>For What Conditions?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If medications or health condition changes prior to course start, please inform NOLS.

Cold, Heat, Altitude
30. History of frostbite or Raynaud’s Syndrome? ☐YES ☐NO
31. History of acute mountain sickness, high altitude pulmonary/cerebral edema? ☐YES ☐NO
   When did the illness occur? ________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

32. History of heat stroke or other heat related illness? ☐YES ☐NO
Examiner’s specific comments: ________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
Fitness (please provide details concerning the student’s exercise regime)
33. Does the applicant exercise regularly? ☐ YES ☐ NO
Activity ____________________ Frequency ____________________
Duration/Distance ____________ Intensity Level ☐ Easy ☐ Moderate ☐ Competitive
Activity ____________________ Frequency ____________________
Duration/Distance ____________ Intensity Level ☐ Easy ☐ Moderate ☐ Competitive

34. Does this person smoke or use tobacco products? ☐ YES ☐ NO
Tobacco (or nicotine) is not allowed on NOLS courses or property. We recommend that applicant quit now.

35. Is this person overweight? Underweight? If so, how much? _________ ☐ YES ☐ NO

36. Swimming ability (CHECK ONE): ☐ Non-swimmer ☐ Recreational ☐ Competitive

Physical Examination
A D.O., M.D., F.N.P., APRN or P.A. must read and fill out pages 1-6. Physical examination data cannot be more than a year old from the starting date of the NOLS course. (Please type or print legibly)

NOLS requires a tetanus immunization within 10 years of the start date of the course. Expeditions outside the U.S. may require additional immunizations. Please refer to your course travel information for specific details.

Blood Pressure _______ / _______ / _______ Last Tetanus Inoculation _______ Height _______ Weight _______

General Appearance, Impressions and Comments:
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Examiner’s Name __________________________ (______) __________________________
Phone __________________________

Street Address __________________________ State _______ Zip _______

M.D., D.O., F.N.P., APRN or P.A. Signature __________________________ Date: _______ / _______ / _______

By my signature, I attest that the person named on page one of this form is medically cleared to participate on a NOLS course based on the expedition information provided on page 1 of this form along with the background information provided by the applicant and my physical examination of him/her.

Please Return All Six Pages To: NOLS, 284 Lincoln St. Lander, WY 82520