

# Matt Wade

## Work Experience

**Executive Director, American Mountain Guides Association** 2023-Present

- Lead the AMGA Board of Directors and AMGA staff in the execution of the AMGA mission to be the leader in education, standards, and advocacy for professional climbing instructors and guides.
- Oversee strategic planning, communications, financial management, and policy advocacy.
- Ensure AMGA educational training and certification programs meet international standards.

**Deputy Director, American Mountain Guides Association** 2020-2023

- Oversaw the AMGA membership department including member services and communications.
- Directed AMGA advocacy and policy initiatives related to public land access and support AMGA members with access issues and opportunities.
- Managed the AMGA Professional Compliance Program.

**Advocacy & Policy Director, American Mountain Guides Association** 2017-2020

- Developed and operated AMGA's advocacy and policy program that seeks to expand opportunities for the public to experience outdoor recreation on public lands with a guide.
- Collaborated with federal land agencies and the U.S. Congress to reduce barriers to access for guided outdoor recreation.

**Founder & President, Peak Mountain Guides, LLC** 2008-2017

- Over nine years, built a widely respected and successful climbing and skiing guide service.
- Hired, trained, and mentored office staff and a field team of AMGA certified instructors and guides.

**AMGA Certified Rock & Ski Guide, Various Guide Services** 1999-2017

- Guided ice climbing, backcountry skiing, rock climbing, and mountaineering in Washington State; Colorado; Utah; Alaska; New York; British Columbia, Canada; Bolivia; and Ecuador.

**Climbing Program Manager, Cornell University Outdoor Education** 2001-2003

- Hired, trained, and supervised a staff of 30 outdoor educators to conduct climbing and skiing programs for the nation's largest university based outdoor program.

**Founder & Director, Pacific Lutheran University Outdoor Education** 1995-1998

- Developed and operated an outdoor education program for students at Pacific Lutheran University, a private liberal arts institution of 4000 students.

## Education

**Pacific Lutheran University  
Tacoma, WA**

- Minor in Chemistry completed May 1997 and Bachelor of Science in Biology completed May 1998, Cum Laude honors.
- Selected to *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges* for outstanding leadership.

**American Mountain Guides Association**

- Certified Ski Guide, May 2006 – recipient of full tuition Marmot Scholarship
- Certified Rock Guide, October 2007 – recipient of full tuition Black Diamond Scholarship