



CLASS SPECIFICATION

8-26-04

OPEN WATER LIFEGUARD, 2420

Summary of Duties: Oversees the safety of patrons using open water facilities; patrols open water facilities operating a power rescue boat or authorized emergency vehicle; rescues and takes preventative measures to protect patrons using the facility for recreational boating, water skiing, use of personal water craft, sailboarding, swimming and other recreational activities; may supervise and train subordinate employees; may operate a large power rescue boat; and does related work.

Distinguishing Features: The primary responsibility of an Open Water Lifeguard is the safety and protection of persons using an open water facility by preventing accidents in, on and around the water and, when required, effecting rescues. In an emergency, the incumbent must think and act quickly, take personal risks and exercise considerable physical effort. An Open Water Lifeguard receives general supervision and exercises independent judgment within the framework of established policies and procedures. An Open Water Lifeguard may be required to work 14-hour days during the spring and summer months.

Examples of Duties:

- Operates rescue power boats to patrol an open water facility to prevent boating, swimming and related accidents;
- Operates a 4-wheel drive authorized emergency vehicle;
- Makes water rescues;
- Makes rescues from breakwaters, piers and shore;
- Renders emergency first aid and executes underwater search and recovery;
- Enforces facility rules and California boating laws;
- Warns the public of hazards at the facility both on shore and in the water;
- Assists private boat operators in maneuvering their boats to shore during inclement weather;
- Operates and maintains lifesaving equipment and makes minor repairs;
- Checks private boats for proper safety equipment and passenger carrying capacity;
- Uses rescue cans, rescue tubes, rescue boards and other lifesaving equipment;
- May administer rescue breathing, oxygen and cardiopulmonary resuscitation to rescued persons;
- Administers first aid to persons with injuries or illnesses;
- Makes reports on rescues, first aid treatments, special occurrences and facility attendance;
- May supervise subordinate employees and apply sound supervisory principles and techniques in maintaining an effective workforce;
- May conduct or assist in the training of subordinate employees;
- May act as incident commander of an emergency scene until an employee of higher rank arrives.

May occasionally be assigned to other duties for training purposes or to meet technological changes or emergencies.

Qualifications:

Knowledge of:

- Dangerous water and environmental conditions;
- Lifeguarding techniques, first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation;

- The use and care of lifesaving equipment;
- The use and care of resuscitators and automatic defibrillators;
- Regulations, laws, and ordinances concerning the use of City open water facilities.

The ability to:

- Pass a qualifying swim test;
- Apply lifesaving and resuscitation techniques;
- Operate radio communication equipment;
- Deal tactfully and effectively with the public and various outside lifeguard, firefighting, medical and law enforcement agencies;
- Keep records and make reports.

Minimum Requirements:

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and have two seasons (600 hours) experience as a lifeguard with the City of Los Angeles.

License and Certificates: A valid California driver's license is required. Once trained, must maintain valid American Red Cross (ARC) Emergency Response and Lifeguard Training certificates. Open Water Lifeguard II is required to possess and maintain valid EMT-1, ARC Lifeguard Training Instructor, ARC Emergency Response Instructor and California Boating and Waterways Rescue Boat Operator certificates.

Minimum Vision: Vision must be correctable to 20/20.

Physical Requirements: Strength and agility to perform very heavy work under hazardous conditions, occasionally lifting up to 150 pounds and frequently lifting up to 50 pounds; and normal hearing without correction.

Persons with medical limitations may, with reasonable accommodations, be capable of performing the duties of some of the positions in this class. Such determination must be made on an individual basis in light of the person's limitations, the requirements of the position, and the appointing authority's ability to effect reasonable accommodations to the person's limitations.

As provided in Civil Service Commission Rule 2.5 and Section 4.55 of the Administrative Code, this specification is descriptive, explanatory and not restrictive. It is not intended to declare what the duties, responsibilities and required qualifications of any position shall be.