

Jurisdictional Class: Non-Competitive  
Adopted: Unknown  
Revised: April 8, 2026

## **LIFEGUARD**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is routine work involving responsibility for patrolling a bathing beach or pool, looking after the safety and welfare of the swimmers at a bathing beach and/or pool. The incumbent is responsible for enforcing all beach/pool rules, regulations, and safety protocols and responding to emergencies and first aid situations. The incumbent may be responsible for opening and/or closing the beach or pool area, all bathrooms, locker rooms, etc. and making sure that all necessary equipment is available and in working order. The work is performed under direct supervision with considerable leeway allowed for the exercise of independent judgment in emergencies. An error in judgment might result in loss of life. The incumbent does related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative only)

Stands watch or patrols bathing beach and/or pool area keeping swimmers within bounds and going to their aid when they are in difficulty;  
Enforces compliance with beach/pool rules, regulations, and safety protocols;  
Applies resuscitation techniques and otherwise renders first aid;  
Instructs beginners in swimming techniques and safety;  
Oversees the safety of all swimmers during swimming lessons;  
Keeps the beach and/or pool area free of glass and other debris;  
Performs daily cleanup of the beach and/or pool area including raking the area, picking up trash and litter, and emptying trash barrels;  
Performs other routine duties such as repairing/cleaning equipment and taking it out and putting it away each day;  
Maintains order on and around beach/pool area including bathrooms, locker rooms, hallways, etc.;  
Maintains proper records of all discipline and medical incidents;  
Completes all required paperwork and reports;  
Trains regularly with other staff for safety plan and life saving procedures;  
May maintain the necessary water testing and other maintenance activities to assure that a swimming pool meets the New York State Department of Health regulations;  
May do vacuuming of a pool and cleaning of the deck/locker rooms to keep in a condition to assure the health and safety of staff, adults, and children using it.

### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Good knowledge of first aid, life saving, and rescue work as applied to beach/water/swimming accidents;  
Good knowledge of and ability to enforce beach/pool rules, regulations, and safety protocols;  
Ability to swim well;  
Ability to handle emergency and first aid situations;  
Ability to deal with the public tactfully and exercise authority in a public setting;  
Ability to keep records and to make simple reports and arithmetic computations;  
Mental alertness and good observation skills;  
Sound judgment.

## Lifeguard

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Must meet age requirement as stated on the Aquatic Certifications for NYS Bathing Facilities Fact Sheet in accordance with NYS Sanitary Code; and
2. Must possess a current appropriate-level Lifeguarding Certification as noted on the Aquatic Certifications for NYS Bathing Facilities Fact Sheet in accordance with NYS Sanitary Code. Lifeguard certifications shall be valid for the time period specified by the certifying agency, but may not exceed a consecutive three (3) year period from course completion; and
3. If CPR is not included in current Lifeguarding Certification (New for 2012), must possess a current CPR certificate as noted on the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification for NYS Children's Camps and NYS Bathing Facilities Fact Sheet in accordance with NYS Sanitary Code. All cardiopulmonary resuscitation certificates are valid for one (1) year from the date of certification, regardless of the expiration date noted on the card; and
4. If First Aid is not included in current Lifeguarding Certification, must possess a current First Aid Certificate as noted on the First Aide Certification for NYS Children's Camp Staff Fact Sheet in accordance with NYS Sanitary Code. First Aid Certifications are valid for the time period specified by the provider, but may not exceed three (3) years from the date of course completion.

The above Special Requirements are regulated by the New York State Sanitary Code (SSC) and can be found at the following links:

Lifeguard Fact Sheet:

<https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/camps/docs/aquacert.pdf>

CPR Fact Sheet:

<https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/camps/docs/cpr.pdf>

First Aid Fact Sheet:

<https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/camps/docs/firstaid.pdf>