

Open Water Lifeguard (Starting Pay \$10.50/hr)

General Statement of Duties

Under direct or immediate supervision patrols and monitors assigned area of ocean and beach strand to ensure proactive and expeditious accident prevention and response; responds to town beach and water-related accidents and emergencies, maintains lifesaving and other related equipment and facilities and makes patrons aware of state and local laws, including beach ordinances; may perform other duties as assigned by supervisor.

Distinguishing Features of the Class

An employee in this class patrols the beach and ocean areas from an assigned lifeguard tower, patrol vehicle or vessel and performs rescue and accident prevention activities at the beach and in an open water environment. Open Water Lifeguard employees educate and instruct the public on beach, water and other public safety matters.

Work is performed in accordance with Town and departmental rules, policies and procedures, and requires knowledge of life safety practices at the beach and in an open water environment, basic life support and public relations principles and practices. Recruitment is based on the possession of swimming skills and the ability to perform water rescues and provide first responder emergency medical care. The employee exercises reasonable initiative and independent judgment in performing work assignments and is exposed to hazardous conditions and potential life-threatening situations when performing rescues. Specific assignments are established by a supervisor to ensure that lifeguards are alert at all times and that assigned tasks are performed according to instructions. Work is performed under the general supervision of Ocean Rescue Supervisor.

Duties and Responsibilities

Essential Duties and Tasks

- Responds to emergency incidents, makes critical decisions and takes action to preserve life and prevent injuries; performs rescue, artificial respiration, and first aid work when necessary; maintains continued surveillance over designated area.
- Patrols public beaches in the open water environment and warn swimmers of dangerous surf or other hazardous beach conditions; post warning signs indicating hazardous conditions.
- Advises violators of ordinances and State statutes governing beach safety.
- Makes Police Department aware of violations of ordinances and statutes.
- Operates and maintains lifeguard vehicles, boats, rescue equipment and participates in the upkeep of facilities.
- Participates in continuing training and instruction in open water rescue techniques, first responder medical care, disaster response, occupational safety practices, public relations and a variety of other subjects related to lifeguarding.
- Measures and reports environmental conditions such as: wind speed and direction, air and water temperatures, surf and tide levels, beach erosion and visitor population

Additional Job Duties

- Performs related duties as required.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Considerable knowledge of modern principles, practices and procedures of ocean rescue work and preventative measures, and the administration of artificial respiration, first aid, and CPR.
- Knowledge of local and state water safety rules and regulations, including beach ordinances relating to a marine environment.
- Knowledge of the ocean environment including varying weather conditions, surf, beach, hazardous currents, marine predators and other environmental conditions.
- Physical ability to make ocean water rescues under difficult conditions and to perform lifesaving techniques.
- Ability to analyze emergency situations quickly in order to effectively administer emergency medical protocol in stressful situations.
- Ability to pass annual physical qualification test.
- Ability to safely operate lifeguard vehicles, rescue boats, and other technical equipment.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Ability to maintain order on the beach and surrounding areas firmly and tactfully.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with the general public, other Town employees, and departmental officials.

Physical Requirements

- Must be able to physically perform the basic life operational functions of climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, crawling, reaching, standing, walking, pushing, pulling, lifting, fingering, grasping, feeling, talking, hearing, and perform repetitive motions.
- Must have the physical strength, endurance, and ability required for the performance of essential duties and responsibilities that include; swimming, running, walking, standing, climbing, stooping, bending, pulling, pushing, sitting for extended periods of time and the ability to drag 150 pounds.
- Must be able to withstand prolonged exposure to the beach and ocean environment; including prolonged exposure to cold weather, water, and sun.
- May be exposed to hazardous materials and Bloodborne Pathogens.
- Must possess hearing and vision ability. Eyesight correctable to 20/40 is required.

Desirable Experience and Education

- Possess a minimum of six (6) months paid work experience in lifeguarding, or have completed a 40-hour minimum lifeguard training program with an organization certified by the United States Lifesaving Association.
- Possess a currently valid American Red Cross Lifeguard Certificate or equivalent.
- Possess a currently valid American Heart Association BLS/C.P.R. card or equivalent at time of employment.
- Possess a currently valid North Carolina Drivers License
- Be able to successfully pass a performance test, which includes simulated ocean rescues prior to employment. This test must be successfully passed yearly.
- All required certifications and licenses, whether possessed at time of employment or obtained after employment, must be kept current and valid while employed in a position in this class.

Interested candidates should fill out and return a completed application to:

**Town of Carolina Beach
1121 N. Lake Park Blvd.
Carolina Beach, NC 28428**