

Lifeguard (Part-time or Seasonal) Tompkins County

Department: Various Towns, Villages and School Districts

Classification: Non-competitive for all Towns, Villages and School Districts per the NYS CSC 01/27/76. Competitive for all others.

Approved: 11/75

Revised: 3/76; 8/88; 7/03; 01/07; 6/10; 3/15; 4/16; 11/18; 4/2025

By: HH, Commissioner of Personnel

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

At the time of application, children's **camp** Lifeguards must be at least 17 years of age, except a maximum of 50% of the required lifeguards on duty may be 16 years of age. Applicants must provide a copy of a valid approved provider's Lifeguard Certification **AND** provide an approved provider's cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification.

Swimming pool Lifeguards, e.g. in schools, must be a minimum of 16 years old (15 years old is acceptable if employed at a facility where a supervisory Lifeguard is present). Applicants must provide a copy of a valid approved providers Lifeguard Certification **AND** provide an approved provider's cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS:

Possession of a current Lifeguard Certification. Certification shall be valid for the time period specified by the certifying agency, but may not exceed a consecutive 3-year period from course completion. Please upload a copy of your Lifeguard Certification along with your application for employment.

Possession of a current CPR Certification.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Supervising lifeguards must possess at least Supervision Level IIb certification, be at least 18 years old, and have at least 2 seasons of lifeguarding experience. A maximum of 50% of the required Lifeguards on duty may be 16 years of age. To be eligible to conduct swimming and water safety classes a Lifeguard must possess a Red Cross certification as a waterfront safety instructor or as an instructor of beginning swimming. Lifeguards for wilderness swimming must be at least 18 years of age and meet lifeguard first aid and CPR certification requirements as defined in Part 6 of Chapter 1 of the New York State Sanitary Code.

Preference in appointment may be given to those with Red Cross Certification.

It is the responsibility of the Camp Director, or other appropriate supervisor, to ensure that a swimming area is appropriately staffed at all times in accordance with Part 6, Chapter of the New York State Sanitary Code.

Tompkins County is committed to Equity and Inclusion. We encourage those with similar values to apply.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

A Lifeguard is expected to perform routine patrol work at a pool or bathing beach, looking after the safety and welfare of others. The work consists primarily of maintaining the safety of campers enjoying swimming and other water sport activities. The incumbent will conduct swimming instruction and water safety classes as assigned. Employees in this class must be constantly alert to assist swimmers when they are in difficulty and to enforce safety rules. While on duty at the waterfront, qualified lifeguards shall not be engaged in any other duties or activities that might distract them from the direct supervision of the waterfront. An error in judgment could result in loss of life. The work is performed under the direct supervision of a Swimming Area Director, Camp Director, Assistant Camp Director or other appropriate supervisory personnel. The incumbent will perform all related duties as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

- Stands watch at pools and/or patrols the park waterfront, keeping bathers within bounds and going to their aid when they are in difficulty;
- Applies resuscitation techniques and otherwise renders first aid;
- May conduct beginning and advanced swimming and diving classes;
- Keeps locker rooms, poolside and beach areas free of glass and other debris;
- Maintains order and enforces safety rules;
- Performs other routine duties such as maintaining and repairing equipment.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Good knowledge of first aide, lifesaving, and rescue work as applied to accidents in the water;
- Good knowledge of current methods used in swimming and diving instruction;
- Ability to swim well;
- Ability to deal effectively with the public and others and to secure their cooperation;
- Ability to keep records and make simple reports;
- Excellent powers of observation;
- Mental alertness; integrity; and an excellent physical condition are all required;
- The employee's physical condition shall be commensurate with the demands of the position.

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