



South Walton Fire District  
911 N. CR 393  
Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459  
850-267-1298 • Fax 850-267-3294



## Position Description

### LIFEGUARD

#### Position Summary:

All lifeguard applicants must be able to pass a pre-employment physical skills test and oral interview.

Upon employment, lifeguards must successfully graduate from the SWFD Surf Rescue Academy, which follows United States Lifesaving Association Lifeguard Training Guidelines. The main function of the Lifeguard is to provide public safety by monitoring swimming and beach activities, providing medical attention to those in need, and assisting in locating and reporting of lost persons and property.

#### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

- Provide beach safety education to the beach patrons of the Beaches of South Walton.
- To monitor swimmers at all times while on duty at assigned lifeguard tower.
- South Walton Fire District lifeguards shall adhere to all policies and/or SOG's set forth in the SWFD Lifeguard Orientation Manual.
- Maintain good physical condition by training one hour each day.
- Participate in life saving drills as required by the Lifeguard Supervisor.

#### **KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED FOR THE POSITION:**

- Knowledge of USLA water rescue methods, CPR, and First Responder level first aid.
- Knowledge of effective supervisory practices and procedures.
- Ability to extend an hospitable attitude toward visitors and customers on the beach assuring they will have a safe and enjoyable stay and want to return for future visits.
- Ability to exercise tact, firmness and good judgment in enforcing rules and regulations.
- Ability to react quickly and calmly in emergencies.
- Ability to minimize and contain dangerous situations.
- Ability to recognize emergencies and to take effective action.
- Ability to supervise subordinate personnel engaged in aquatic rescue and law enforcement functions.

#### Supervisory Controls:

Reports to Beach Safety Officers, Beach Safety Lieutenants, and the Beach Safety Director.

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## **Physical Demands:**

Typically required to run, swim, paddle and walk long distances; stand and sit for long periods; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, bend, crouch or crawl; reach with hands and arms; talk and hear both in person from close and long distances and by phone or radio; use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate lifesaving equipment; and drive a vehicle. The employee regularly lifts, pushes or pulls persons or equipment over 100 pounds.

## **Work Environment:**

The work is typically performed on the beach. The employee is exposed to direct sunshine, wind, salt air & saltwater and inclement weather including rain, heat, humidity and cold. Exposure to adverse ocean conditions including water temperatures as low as fifty degrees. Work requires analysis and judgment and concentration in accomplishing diversified duties, in particular, the monitoring of large crowds of beach patrons in the aquatic environment. Work requires the exercise of independent thinking within the limits of guidelines, policies, standards, and precedents.

NOTE: Reasonable accommodation considerations will be made for otherwise qualified individuals with a disability.

## **SUPERVISORY AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY:**

None

## **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Must be seventeen (17) years old
- Must semi-annually meet the physical ability requirement of a 500-meter swim of a measured course in ten (10) minutes
- Must complete a 1.2 mile in soft sand in under twelve (12) minutes
- Must have a valid state identification; Florida driver's license preferred
- Current CPR certification as accepted by Florida Department of Health
- Must have Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) certification or higher
- Must have USLA certification as an open-water lifeguard
- Must be a non-smoking/non-tobacco using person, both on and off the job, at the time of employment and maintain same non-smoking and non-use throughout the term of employment.
- Must successfully pass the Fire District's medical/physical, drug screen and background check requirements as a condition of employment

This job description is illustrative, and not all inclusive.

**DURING OCCASIONS OF LOCAL EMERGENCIES, THIS POSITION MAY BE REQUIRED TO REPORT TO PERFORM EMERGENCY TASKS, WHICH MAY RESULT IN EXTENDED WORK HOURS, AS WELL AS EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME AWAY FROM FAMILY MEMBERS**

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