City of Bellingham
Classification Specification

CLASS TITLE	**Aquatic Lifeguard**
DEPARTMENT	**Parks and Recreation**
UNION:	**1937**
SG:	**101**
CS:	**Y**
FLSA:	**Y**
EE04CODE|SOC:	**SW|33-9092**

NATURE OF WORK:

This position is responsible for public interaction with aquatic patrons and students; provides customer service, lifeguarding, lifesaving measures, first aid and general aquatic facility custodial services.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

The Aquatic Lifeguard classification is an entry level position. Incumbents at this level will receive training and oversight of job duties. The Aquatic Lifeguard is distinguished from the higher classified position of Aquatic Leader I by the Aquatic Leader I greater experience and responsibility leading swimming instruction and ability to provide supervision of the facility and lead staff when assigned.

SUPERVISORY RELATIONSHIPS:

Reports to Aquatics Manager. Receives daily direction and supervision from the –Aquatics Supervisor. Works under close supervision and the guidance of applicable federal, state and local statutes, regulations, City policy and procedures and specific policies and procedures of assigned area.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

1. Lifeguards facilities, program and patrons, identifying potential safety concerns and preventing accidents. Provides lifesaving measures including first aid, and CPR when necessary.

2. Ensures that all areas of the facilities are limited to authorized users. Recognizes and acts immediately to address inappropriate and unsafe behavior. Responds to safety or security situations and contacts appropriate staff, law enforcement, or other emergency personnel as appropriate.

3. Cleans locker rooms, staff areas, beaches, and natatorium. Conducts chemical tests and sanitizes facilities after contamination incidents.

4. Attends monthly in-service trainings and may assist with those trainings as needed.

5. Completes all paperwork related to lifeguarding and other assigned duties.

ADDITIONAL WORK PERFORMED:

1. Performs other related work of a similar nature and level.

2. May assist in providing high-quality swim lessons, American Red Cross training courses and aerobic classes to all levels and age groups.

PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS (Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities):

Knowledge of:
- Aquatics safety practices including stabilization and first aid methods.
- Basic pool chemistry.

Skill in:
- Interpersonal communication when working as part of a team, independently or with patrons.
- Analyzing chemical tests

Ability to:
- Ability to work effectively as a team member or independently
- Remain flexible to changes in situations and schedules.
- Remain alert and maintain a high level of awareness of surroundings at all times.
- Maintain consistent and punctual attendance.
- Ability and willingness to demonstrate the Public Service Competencies of Service Orientation, Results Orientation, and Teamwork and Cooperation.
- Physical ability to perform the essential functions of the job, including:
  - Meet standards required for American Red Cross Pre-test for Lifeguarding and Waterfront certifications
  - Meet department standards required for Aquatics Practice Assessments
  - Frequently remain stationary for long periods of time; ability to sit or stand for extended periods of time, ability to kneel, crouch, or bend at the waist to conduct tests or lift patrons.
  - Frequently lift and move heavy objects up to 50 lbs., and occasionally transport weights of up to approximately 100lbs.
  - Hear, communicate, and see sufficiently to receive and provide instructions in a noisy fast-paced environment while meeting mandated safety standards.
  - Operate pool maintenance equipment of varying weight, lengths, and width and aid distressed swimmers of varying sizes.
  - Occasionally travel between indoor and outdoor locations; ability to be exposed to outdoor weather conditions for extended periods of time.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT:

Work is performed year-round in a humid indoor Aquatics Center and outdoors during the summer months at City-owned beaches. Employees often walk on wet or slick surfaces around pool area and waterfront areas. Frequently interacts with the public in the field, which may include exposure to hostile, offensive language, or interactions with angry or volatile individuals. Frequent exposure to pool chemicals and cleaning agents. Occasional exposure to hazardous materials such as blood. General safety precautions are taken into consideration for the majority of these hazards. Exposed to outside weather conditions.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be at least 16 years of age.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively work with members of the public of all ages and abilities.
- Customer Service experience preferred.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Employment contingent upon passing a criminal convictions check and child and vulnerable adult abuse records check.
- Must pass a pre-employment swimming skills test, including but not limited to:
  - American Red Cross Pre-test for Lifeguarding and Waterfront Certifications
- Must pass pre-employment drug screening.
- Ability to secure within two months of hire and maintain the following American Red Cross certifications throughout duration of employment:
  - Lifeguarding
  - First Aid
  - CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuers
  - Administering Emergency Oxygen
  - Bloodborne Pathogens Training
- Failure to obtain and maintain required certifications within the specified timeline will result in dismissal.
- Must be willing to work a flexible schedule including evenings and weekends with a minimum availability of 1 shift per week.

PREPARED BY: L. Hill

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COMMISSION ADOPTION: May 8, 2024