

**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION**

**LIFEGUARD**

**I. DEFINITION**

This is public safety work performed at state park beaches or at the University piers and boathouse. An employee in this class is responsible for protecting human life, maintaining order, and enforcing swimming area rules and regulations. Work is performed with considerable independence. Supervision received is through occasional instructions and review of reports submitted.

Examples of Work Performed:

- Patrols bathing area to maintain order and protect swimmers from accidents or drowning.
- Rescues swimmers in distress; administers artificial respiration by an approved method of resuscitation and gives other first aid when necessary.
- Enforces swimming area rules and regulations.
- Acts as lookout in the watch tower for distress signals.
- Inspects and reports repairs needed to buoys, floats, ropes, or other equipment installed as safety measures; maintains equipment as necessary.
- Maintains general cleanliness of beaches or pools.
- Keeps records and makes reports.
- Performs related work as required.

**II. QUALIFICATIONS**

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Considerable knowledge of life saving methods and water safety practices.
- Knowledge of first-aid practices with emphasis on resuscitation methods.
- Outstanding ability as a swimmer and skill in life saving techniques – approaches, breaking holds, towing and carrying, etc.
- Ability to react quickly and effectively in emergency situations.
- Ability to deal with the public firmly but courteously in enforcing rules and regulations.
- Superior strength and stamina to insure safety in the water.

Minimum Training and Experience:

Such training as may have been gained through graduation from high school and completion of a recognized course of life saving or water safety; or any equivalent combination of training and experience.