Approved Courses for Lifeguards

This document is updated as courses and certificates are added or removed. Last revised: May 31, 2024

Lifeguard (includes required approved Basic First Aid and Professional CPR/AED)	 Boyscout Lifeguard WITH approved first aid and professional CPR course American Red Cross Lifeguard, initial or with annual approved professional CPR course. American Red Cross Shallow Water Lifeguard (for water 5 feet or less in depth only), initial or with annual approved professional CPR course. StarGuard Lifeguard (check to make sure the certificate is not limited to one facility; for example, a shallow-water facility); StarGuard sometimes issues a certification that is limited to one facility. If that is the case, then that certification can only be used at that facility.
	 Milwaukee County Aquatics Lifeguard Lifeguard Pro (Deep Pool, Swimming Pool, Waterfront, Youth Camp, Water Park) and Lifeguard Instructor YMCA Lifeguard Ellis/International Lifeguard Training Program Lifeguard and Pool Training; or Lifeguard and Special Facilities, or Waterfront. May not be used deeper than depth specified on certificate. Shallow is approved for waters 5 feet deep or less.
Professional CPR	 American Aquatics and Safety Training Lifeguard World Academy of Safety and Health Lifeguard Any approved Lifeguard course that contains CPR/AED component (see above) American Red Cross CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer American Red Cross BLS American Red Cross Responding to Emergencies Emergency Medical Technician (any state) Emergency Medical Responder (any state) Department-approved Wilderness First Aid/CPR Department-approved professional/rescuer CPR (not basic CPR) American Safety and Health Institute BLS American Heart Association BLS Emergency Care Safety Institute BLS