



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**

# **PUAOPE027A Undertake beach safety management activities**

**Revision Number: 2**

## PUAOPE027A Undertake beach safety management activities

### Modification History

Release	TP version	Comments
2	PUA12 V1	Layout adjusted.
1	PUA00 V8.1	Primary release on TGA.

### Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to coordinate beach surveillance and rescue as a part of a structured service.

No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

### Application of the Unit

The application of this unit in the workplace covers coordination of surveillance and rescue alone or as a part of a team in a beach/surf/open water environment.

The unit is typically relevant for personnel from emergency services and/or volunteer organisations or organisations where a structured beach surveillance and rescue service is supplied.

### Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

### Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

### Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

## Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where ***bold italicised*** text is used, further information is detailed in the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

## Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Prepare for beach surveillance and rescue	<p>1.1 <i>Duty information</i> is obtained.</p> <p>1.2 <i>Beach information and weather forecasts</i> are accessed and <i>likely conditions</i> are considered.</p> <p>1.3 Availability of <i>appropriately skilled personnel</i> is ensured to meet likely conditions and <i>organisational requirements</i>.</p> <p>1.4 Pre-use check of <i>equipment</i> is completed in accordance with organisational procedures.</p>
2. Undertake preventative actions	<p>2.1 <i>Beach and surf conditions</i> are evaluated.</p> <p>2.2 Safest swimming location is determined and signage is erected in accordance with Australian Standards.</p> <p>2.3 Equipment availability is ensured and <i>appropriately located</i> to meet likely need and organisational requirements.</p> <p>2.4 <i>Operational command</i> is notified of availability for duty.</p> <p>2.5 Public is proactively <i>engaged</i> to inform them of hazards.</p>
3. Respond to casualties in distress	<p>3.1 Casualties in distress are identified and/or information about casualties in distress is received from team members.</p> <p>3.2 Incident details are gathered and risk assessment of casualties and incident is undertaken.</p> <p>3.3 Appropriate rescue method is determined and appropriate rescue equipment is chosen as a result of this risk assessment.</p> <p>3.4 Operational command is notified of rescue situation and continuous updates are provided as required.</p> <p>3.5 <i>Casualty rescue</i> is undertaken or team member is directed to undertake casualty rescue.</p> <p>3.6 Casualty management is coordinated.</p> <p>3.7 Liaison is undertaken with emergency services as required.</p> <p>3.8 Completion of casualty handover to ambulance personnel is ensured.</p>
4. Complete beach surveillance and rescue recovery requirements	<p>4.1 Operational command is notified of end of service provision.</p> <p>4.2 Equipment is returned to storage and post-operational checks and maintenance are completed.</p> <p>4.3 Personnel are debriefed as required.</p> <p>4.4 Organisational documentation is completed as required.</p>

## **Required Skills and Knowledge**

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

### **Required Skills**

- access and interpret data
- communicate effectively with colleagues and stakeholders
- coordinate a range of beach related issues/rescues
- identify rips
- identify wave types
- manage a range of situations in a calm, concise manner
- undertake a risk assessment

### **Required Knowledge**

- Australian Standards in relation to signage and beach safety
- Australian Beach Safety and Management Program [ABSAMP]
- Bureau of Meteorology
- dangers associated with different wave types
- different types of beaches and associated hazards
- local government and by-laws
- organisational operating procedures and structure

## Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the Performance Criteria, Required Skills and Knowledge, the Range Statement and the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package.

### Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- assess beach conditions
- plan safest swimming location
- coordinate a rescue situation
- set up for beach surveillance and appropriately locate signage and equipment

### Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated reviewing a range of beaches or range of conditions at the same beach.

### Context of and specific resources for assessment

#### Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed during patrolling activities or as a part of structured beach set-up and surveillance scenario.

#### Specific resources for assessment

Access is required to:

- rescue equipment
- patrol personnel
- range of beaches with varying conditions

### Method of assessment

In a public safety environment assessment is usually conducted via direct observation in a training environment or in the workplace via subject matter supervision and/or mentoring, which is typically recorded in a competency workbook.

Assessment is completed using appropriately qualified assessors who select the most appropriate method of assessment.

Assessment may occur in an operational environment or in an industry-approved simulated work environment.

Forms of assessment that are typically used include:

- direct observation
- interviewing the candidate
- journals and workplace documentation
- third party reports from supervisors
- written or oral questions

## Range Statement

The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. ***Bold italicised*** wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

<b><i>Duty information</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hours of operations</li> <li>• Number of personnel available</li> <li>• Providing a lifesaving/lifeguard patrol service at one or multiple locations</li> <li>• Type of service provided</li> </ul>
<b><i>Beach information and weather forecasts</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian Beach Safety and Management Program (ABSAMP) rating</li> <li>• Local knowledge</li> <li>• Bureau of Meteorology reports and weather warnings</li> <li>• Tide times</li> </ul>
<b><i>Likely conditions</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimated beach attendance</li> <li>• Littoral currents (side sweeps)</li> <li>• Rip currents</li> <li>• Sandbars</li> <li>• Surf size</li> <li>• Temperature</li> <li>• Wave types and associated hazards</li> </ul>
<b><i>Appropriately skilled personnel</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self</li> <li>• Qualified according to organisational requirements</li> <li>• Team members</li> </ul>
<b><i>Organisational requirements</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard operating procedures</li> <li>• Service agreements</li> </ul>
<b><i>Equipment</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automated External Defibrillator</li> <li>• First Aid Kit</li> <li>• Inflatable rescue boat (IRB)</li> <li>• Oxygen Resuscitation Kit</li> <li>• Personal water craft (PWC)</li> <li>• Radios</li> <li>• Rescue board</li> <li>• Rescue tube</li> <li>• Signage</li> <li>• Spinal board</li> </ul>
<b><i>Beach and surf conditions</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choppy/calm water</li> <li>• Rip currents</li> <li>• Surf size</li> <li>• Wave types</li> </ul>

<b><i>Appropriately locating equipment</i></b> to meet likely need may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locating rescue equipment at start of rip</li> <li>• Making first aid equipment available at central location</li> <li>• Situating rescue powercraft in a location clear of swimmers for safe launching</li> </ul>
<b><i>Operational command</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local supervisor</li> <li>• Remote communications centre</li> </ul>
<b><i>Engaging the public proactively</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directing bathing public back to safe swimming area through use of gestures</li> <li>• Explaining safest swimming location and hazards to beach going public</li> <li>• Making public announcements using address system/load hailer</li> </ul>
<b><i>Casualty rescue</i></b> includes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiating the surf to reach the casualty</li> <li>• Securing the casualty</li> <li>• Returning the casualty to shore</li> <li>• Providing first aid</li> <li>• And may include use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IRB</li> <li>• no equipment</li> <li>• PWC</li> <li>• rescue board</li> <li>• rescue tube</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.