



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for SISCAQU029

Perform open water rescues

Release: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Performance Evidence

Evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit in the context of the job role, and:

- participate in two simulated open water rescues to return a person in difficulty to a point of safety
- for each of the above two rescues:
 - determine appropriate rescue methods and equipment, accounting for the signs of the person experiencing difficulty in the water, prevailing conditions and environmental hazards present
 - consistently negotiate prevailing conditions and environmental hazards safely and effectively
 - consistently use survival swimming techniques to maintain personal safety
 - demonstrate fitness, strength, speed and efficiency throughout the rescue
- across the above two rescues collectively, use the following rescue aids effectively:
 - rescue tubes
 - non-motorised water craft used as a floatation and rescue device
- for one of the above rescues participate in a debrief and complete an incident report.

Knowledge Evidence

Demonstrated knowledge required to complete the tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit:

- organisational procedures for rescues and emergency response
- common active and passive signs and signals of a person experiencing difficulty in the water, and how these indicate their swimming abilities, condition and rescue needs
- importance of promptly alerting others to rescue, and:
 - organisational reporting lines
 - communication protocols for using telephones and radios
 - relevant information conveyed
- for natural or artificial open water settings:
 - hydrological features sufficient to recognise signs they are present, and understand the impacts on supervision, swimming, other recreational activities and rescues
 - types of prevailing weather and water conditions that impact on supervision, recreational activities, and rescues

- types of environmental hazards, risks to self and person being rescued, and methods used to minimise risk
- survival swimming techniques used to self-rescue
- strategies that can be used when unable to return to a point of safety alone, including established signals and calls for help
- personal survival and defensive techniques used when approaching and rescuing swimmers in difficulty
- equipment and techniques used in open water rescues, and situations indicating their choice:
 - rescue tubes
 - rescue boards
 - non-motorised water craft used as a floatation and rescue device
- techniques used to support rescued person and ensure their airways are clear during the rescue
- equipment and techniques used to extract rescued persons from the water, including assisted and unassisted
- assertive and constructive verbal communication techniques used during rescues to:
 - direct person being rescued
 - calm and reassure person being rescued
- actions typically taken after rescue from water is completed:
 - monitoring condition of rescued person
 - provision of first aid to casualties
 - contact with emergency services to relay conditions of casualties
- rescue debriefing and reporting requirements
- formats and inclusions of written incident reports.

Assessment Conditions

Skills can be demonstrated in:

- a natural open water environment which can include a lake, lagoon, dam, flatwater or slow moving river without rapids and non-surf beach or
- a built recreational facility such as a wave park which replicates a natural environment.

Assessments can only be completed through simulated activities. Simulations must incorporate time critical requirements.

First aid equipment must be available to replicate industry conditions of operation.

Assessment must ensure use of:

- interaction with individuals who act as rescuees during simulated activities
- communication equipment for emergency response
- rescue equipment:
 - rescue tubes

- non-motorised water craft for use as a floatation and rescue device; this can include surfboards, paddleboards, rescue board or any type of paddle craft or floatation aid
- template incident reports
- organisational procedures for rescues and emergency response.

Assessors must:

- satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations requirements for assessors, and
- have workplace experience where they have applied the skills and knowledge covered in this unit of competency over a period of two years working in industry.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=1ca50016-24d2-4161-a044-d3faa200268b>