SRCAQU003B Respond to an aquatic emergency using basic water rescue techniques
SRCAQU003B Respond to an aquatic emergency using basic water rescue techniques

Modification History
Not applicable.

Unit Descriptor
This unit has been developed for the Community Recreation Industry Training Package and covers the skills and knowledge to identify and evaluate an aquatic emergency and perform a basic water rescue. These situations will usually involve an individual response.

Application of the Unit
Not applicable.

Licensing/Regulatory Information
Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites
Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information
Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content
Not applicable.
## Elements and Performance Criteria

<table>
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<th>Element</th>
<th>Performance Criteria</th>
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| 1       | Identify and evaluate aquatic emergencies which may require basic water rescue techniques | 1.1 Identify and explain the factors that contribute to aquatic emergencies which may require basic water rescues  
1.2 Identify and explain the characteristics of a person in difficulty  
1.3 Communicate initial assessment to appropriate personnel in accordance with the accepted best practice principles of aquatic rescues  
1.4 Identify and explain an appropriate emergency response for the situation and the people involved |
| 2       | Apply the principles of a basic water rescue when required | 2.1 Assess the factors involved in conducting a basic water rescue and formulate a rescue plan  
2.2 Consider the rescue plan, self-preservation and the safety of bystanders  
2.3 Determine the type of rescue required and rescue equipment needed  
2.4 Perform a basic water rescue in accordance with accepted best practice principles of aquatic rescues |
| 3       | Assess the casualty and plan a course of action | 3.1 Observe and describe the condition of the casualty  
3.2 Provide treatment appropriate to the casualty's condition in line with approved resuscitation techniques and standards |
| 4       | Record and report the incident | 4.1 Complete a record of the incident and the action taken using appropriate forms and in line with organisational requirements  
4.2 Notify appropriate other personnel and statutory authorities of the incident |
Required Skills and Knowledge

Not applicable.
Evidence Guide

The Evidence Guide identifies the critical aspects, knowledge and skills to be demonstrated to confirm competence for this unit. This is an integral part of the assessment of competence and should be read in conjunction with the Range Statements.

**Critical aspects of evidence to be considered**

Assessment must confirm the ability integrated demonstration of all elements of competency and their performance criteria, in particular the ability to:
- identify the factors that contribute to an aquatic emergency
- correctly identify and evaluate an aquatic emergency requiring basic water rescues
- determine and implement a basic water rescue plan which minimises risk to self and other bystanders
- assess the condition of the casualty and apply appropriate treatment in line with approved resuscitation techniques and standards
- accurately report the incident and notify other relevant personnel according to legislative, regulatory and organisation requirement

**Interdependent assessment of units**

This unit must be assessed after attainment of competency in the following unit(s):
- Nil

This unit must be assessed in conjunction with the following unit(s):
- Nil

For the purpose of integrated assessment, this unit may be assessed in conjunction with the following unit(s):
- SRCAQU007B Respond to an aquatic emergency using advanced water rescue techniques

**Required knowledge and skills**

Required knowledge:
- Factors contributing to aquatic emergencies
- Characteristics of a person in difficulty
- Potential dangers in a range of aquatic environments
- Resuscitation techniques and standards
- Water rescue equipment
- Principles of basic water rescues
- Relevant equipment and safety requirements,
including occupational health and safety and legislative requirements

**Required skills**

- Skills and techniques required to perform basic water rescues
- Ability to identify factors leading to aquatic emergencies
- Monitoring/observation skills to identify aquatic emergencies requiring basic water rescues
- Skills and techniques required to perform resuscitation
- Fitness and strength level to perform basic water rescues appropriate to the learner's work environment

**Resource implications**

- Physical resources - assessment of this competency requires access to a real or simulated work environment appropriate documentation and resources normally used in the workplace, a swimming pool/aquatic environment and rescue equipment suitable participants, rules, policies and regulations of relevant peak bodies and/or employer organisations
- Human resources - assessment of this competency will require human resources consistent with those outlined in the Assessment Guidelines. That is, assessors (or persons within the assessment team) must be competent in this unit, be current in their knowledge and understanding of the industry through provision of evidence of professional activity in the relevant area, have attained the mandatory competency requirements for assessors under the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) as specified in Standard 7.3 of the Standards for Registered Training Organisations

**Consistency in performance**

Competence in this unit must be assessed over a period of time in order to ensure consistency of performance over the Range Statements and contexts applicable to the
**Context for assessment**

This unit of competency must be assessed in the context of community recreation in Australia. For valid and reliable assessment the community recreation activity should closely replicate the work environment. The environment should be safe, with the hazards, circumstances and equipment likely to be encountered in a real workplace. This unit of competence should be assessed through the observation of processes and procedures, oral and/or written questioning on required knowledge and skills and consideration of required attitudes. Where performance is not directly observed and/or is required to be demonstrated over a "period of time" and/or in a "number of locations", any evidence should be authenticated by colleagues, supervisors, clients or other appropriate persons.

**KEY COMPETENCIES**

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<tr>
<th>Collect, Analyse &amp; Organise Information</th>
<th>Communicate Ideas &amp; Information</th>
<th>Plan &amp; Organise Activities</th>
<th>Work with Others &amp; in Teams</th>
<th>Use Mathematical Ideas &amp; Techniques</th>
<th>Solve Problems</th>
<th>Use Technology</th>
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These levels do not relate to the Australian Qualifications Framework. They relate to the seven areas of generic competency.
that underpin effective workplace practices. The three levels of performance (1, 2 and 3) denote the level of competency required to perform the task:

- Use routine approaches
- Select from routine approaches
- Establish new approaches

Collecting, analysing and organising information
- Communicating ideas and information
- Planning and organising activities
- Working with teams and others
- Using mathematical ideas and techniques
Solving problems -
Using technology
-
Please refer to the Assessment Guidelines for advice on how to use the Key Competencies.
Range Statement

Range Statements
The Range Statements provide advice to interpret the scope and context of this unit of competence, allowing for differences between enterprises and workplaces. The Range Statements relate to the unit as a whole and helps facilitate holistic assessment. In addition, the following variables may be present for this particular unit of competency

RANGE STATEMENT

CATEGORIES

Accepted best practice principles of aquatic rescues
- accepted preventative practice adopted throughout the aquatic industry to minimise safety hazards or risks to casualty, bystanders and rescuer
- Guidelines and Code of conduct policies developed by the peak bodies responsible for lifesaving, such as the Royal Life Saving Society Australia and Surf Life Saving Australia
- national organisation regulations and guidelines
- relevant national, state/territory or local government regulations and guidelines
- employer organisation's policies and procedures
- the culture of lifesaving
- current and past good practice demonstrated by self or peers in the same or similar situation

Aquatic emergencies
- may include envenomation
- sudden unconsciousness
- spinal injured person
- drowning
- heart attack
- severe bleeding
- multiple victims
- epileptic seizures
- severe asthma attacks

Basic water rescue
- techniques would be performed by an individual and must include all of the following
- non-swimming rescues such as reach rescue
- rope throw rescue
throw a flotation aid and
swimming rescues
accompanied rescue
wade rescue
non-contact tow
contact tow
water search procedures
vice-grip and extended arm roll-over
techniques
defensive techniques including blocking,
blocking with an aid, reverses
escape techniques including escape from
front and rear grasps

Characteristics of a person in difficulty
will vary according to their situation but may include
calling for help
vertical body position
minimal or non-supportive leg action
vigorous arm movements
head tilted up and back, face turned to safety
or help
submerged (or unconscious) perso

Factors that contribute to aquatic emergencies which may require basic water rescues
may include
swimming ability
environmental conditions such as
deep water
shallow water
river currents
surf
strong wind
risk taking behaviour
consumption of alcohol or use of illegal drugs
condition of casualty

People involved
may include
casualty
bystanders
rescuers
staff

Rescue equipment
may include
reaching aids
ropes
flotation aids
Rescue plan

The rescue plan considers the following factors:
- Self-preservation
- Awareness of personal capabilities
- Available assistance
- Selection of rescue aids
- Nature of the area
- Condition of person in difficulty
- Priorities of rescue

Resuscitation techniques and standards

Resuscitation techniques and standards must include:
- Danger, response, airway, breathing, circulation routine
- Australian Resuscitation Council Resuscitation Standards
- Expired air resuscitation techniques
- Mouth to mask
- Mouth to nose
- Mouth to mouth
- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques
- 1 person operator
- 2 person operator

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.