



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for PUASAR017 Undertake advanced surf rescue

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the PUA Public Safety Training Package.

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and includes

- applying Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements
- appraising distance to casualty
- communicating with colleagues and reassuring stakeholders
- following organisational policies and procedures
- identifying hazards
- identifying high risk locations, locations that gives the best view of area, rip currents, surf locations and wave types
- identifying methods to avoid fatigue related issues
- managing a surf rescue unaided from identification of casualty through to handover
- paddling equipment including rescue boards or tubes in challenging surf conditions
- performing a complex surf rescue with multiple casualties
- performing first aid using resuscitation techniques
- performing surveillance duties including identifying high risk bathers
- preparing for surf rescue including undertaking pre-use checks of equipment
- reporting to operational command
- responding to casualties in distress including use of appropriate defensive approaches
- returning casualties to shore using appropriate securing, dragging and lowering techniques
- self-rescuing in a surf environment
- swimming in challenging surf conditions
- undertaking debriefings
- using, recovering and restoring equipment to operational readiness

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and includes knowledge of

- availability of rip currents to use when proceeding out to sea including lulls between sets of waves, size of surf and time between waves

- beach types and hazard ratings
- equipment used in surf rescues including their characteristics and limitations and pre-use checks
- escape techniques from a panicking casualty
- fatigue management strategies
- first aid techniques and industry standards
- further assistance available
- hazards of the surf beach environment including high risk locations
- high risk bather profile
- operational command structure including roles and responsibilities
- organisational documentation, policies and procedures including procedures relating to debriefing and reporting requirements, maintaining equipment in terms of environmental management and sustainability and rescue and recovery
- rescue techniques including appraising distance to casualty
- roles of lifesavers, lifeguards and other personnel
- signals for communication between team members on shore and in the water
- Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements including risk mitigation

Assessment Conditions

As a minimum, assessors must satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, which include requirements in the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

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Assessment must occur in workplace operational situations where it is appropriate to do so; where this is not appropriate, assessment must occur in simulated workplace operational situations that replicate workplace conditions.

Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Competency must be demonstrated by performing actual or simulated rescues at a surf beach using both rescue boards and tubes in a range of actual surf conditions.

Resources for assessment must include access to

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or simulations
- relevant and appropriate materials, equipment, tools and personal protective clothing and equipment used in industry including
 - appropriate rescue equipment
 - a surf beach
- applicable documentation including organisational procedures, industry standards, equipment specifications, regulations, codes of practice and operations manuals.

Links

PUA Training Package Companion Volume Implementation Guide is found in VETNet - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=3eca5672-6d5a-410b-8942-810d0ba05bbf>