

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE MODULE: UNIT SPECIFICATION**STATEMENT OF STANDARDS**

UNIT NUMBER: 5160225

UNIT TITLE: SWIMMING POOL SIDE OPERATIONS AND SAFETY PROCEDURES

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

OUTCOME

1. ESTABLISH THE NEED TO MAINTAIN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR SWIMMING POOL USERS

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- (a) The requirement for clean and clear water is correctly identified.
- (b) The necessity of clear signposting and transmission of rules verbally to users is correctly defined.
- (c) The monitoring of users of pools according to codes of practice or guidelines is correctly established.
- (d) The use of emergency equipment according to codes of practice or guidelines is correct.

RANGE STATEMENT

Swimming pool environment: water; surrounds; equipment.

Emergency equipment: rescue equipment; first aid equipment.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Oral or written explanation of the need to maintain a safe environment for swimming pool users.

OUTCOME

- 2. DEMONSTRATE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFE SWIMMING POOL SUPERVISION

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- (a) The importance of constant observation of the pool is clearly described.
- (b) Potential hazards and emergency situations are clearly identified.
- (c) Methods for the control of unsafe or disorderly activity are accurately identified.

RANGE STATEMENT

Hazards and emergency situations relating to: pool equipment; fabric.

Equipment: in conventional pools; in free form pools; play equipment.

Control: verbal; hand signals; whistles; public address; sirens.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Oral or written explanation of the requirements for safe swimming pool supervision with reference to professional codes of practice, potential hazards and emergency situations, methods for the control of unsafe or disorderly activity.

OUTCOME

- 3. APPLY CORRECT PROCEDURES IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY IN A SWIMMING POOL

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- (a) The action taken following the identification of an emergency is correct.
- (b) The method for immediate rescue of a casualty is correct.
- (c) The application of first aid and resuscitation if required is accurate.
- (d) The method by which an incident is reported is correct.

RANGE STATEMENT

Casualties: drowning non-swimmers; distressed swimmers; weak swimmers; tired swimmers; injured bathers; unconscious casualties; multiple casualties; silent drownings.

Rescue action: use of emergency rescue equipment; safe entry and removal from water; swimming and towing; recovering casualty from deepest part of pool.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Performance evidence of the ability to apply correct procedures in the event of an emergency. Evidence of this may be by simulation or production of RLSS Bronze Medallion.

ASSESSMENT

In order to achieve this unit, candidates are required to present sufficient evidence that they have met all the performance criteria for each outcome within the range specified. Details of these requirements are given for each outcome. The assessment instruments used should follow the general guidance offered by the SQA assessment model and an integrative approach to assessment is encouraged. (See references at the end of support notes).

Accurate records should be made of the assessment instruments used showing how evidence is generated for each outcome and giving marking schemes and/or checklists, etc. Records of candidates' achievements should be kept. These records will be available for external verification.

SPECIAL NEEDS

In certain cases, modified outcomes and range statements can be proposed for certification. See references at end of support notes.

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NATIONAL CERTIFICATE MODULE: UNIT SPECIFICATION**SUPPORT NOTES**

UNIT NUMBER: 5160225

UNIT TITLE: SWIMMING POOL SIDE OPERATIONS AND SAFETY PROCEDURES

SUPPORT NOTES: This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. None of the sections of the support notes is mandatory.

NOTIONAL DESIGN LENGTH: SQA allocates a notional design length to a unit on the basis of time estimated for achievement of the stated standards by a candidate whose starting point is as described in the access statement. The notional design length for this unit is 40 hours. The use of notional design length for programme design and timetabling is advisory only.

PURPOSE The unit is designed to enable the candidate to develop the skills and knowledge to enable them to apply safe practice and operation in a wet side environment.

SQA publishes summaries of NC units for easy reference, publicity purposes, centre handbooks, etc. The summary statement for this unit is as follows:

This module will enable you to develop an understanding of the procedures for the safe operation of a swimming pool side facility.

CONTENT/CONTEXT The content of the module will include underpinning knowledge and skills which the successful candidate will require in its completion. Areas of work will include: safe staff/customer ratios; safety standards for pool equipment and pool areas; procedures if an item of equipment or activity area is found to be unsafe for use; reporting to a responsible person; what should be included in daily safety checks; why daily safety checks are necessary; the need for additional staffing; the need for clear display of notices; the guidelines and codes of practice for normal pool operation; correct storage of emergency equipment and its proper maintenance; why pool water clarity should be monitored.

The supervision of the pool will involve candidates in correct observation of bathers; identifying all areas of pool are lifeguarded and hazardous or emergency situations are handled promptly and correctly; customers given clear information or facility and equipment use; specialist equipment and activities correctly supervised; customers are prevented from or advised against attending activities outwith their ability; customers not behaving in a safe/orderly manner who having been advised of facilities, rules and regulations, are reported to responsible person if misconduct continues; effective communication with customers is maintained.

In responding to emergencies the candidate will assess the situation and undertake the correct course of action; remove the casualty from further danger; take action consistent with the facility's emergency action plan; effect quick rescue; raise alarm; locate and use resuscitation and first aid equipment as necessary; conduct procedures in a calm and reassuring manner; take steps necessary to prevent further emergencies; complete reporting process; assess cause of emergency.

As much as possible the unit should be delivered in a candidate-centred, practical way. Simulation within the pool environment should be used wherever possible.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES Outcomes 2 and 3 lend themselves to assessments by practical exercise where the tutor controls the simulation and records evidence by way of an extended checklist or series of checklists.

RECOGNITION Many SQA NC units are recognised for entry/recruitment purposes. For up-to-date information see the SQA guide 'Recognised and Recommended Groupings'.

REFERENCES

1. Guide to unit writing.
2. For a fuller discussion on assessment issues, please refer to SQA's Guide to Assessment.
3. Procedures for special needs statements are set out in SQA's guide 'Students with Special Needs'.
4. Information for centres on SQA's operating procedures is contained in SQA's Guide to Procedures.
5. For details of other SQA publications, please consult SQA's publications list.

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