

# CURRENT RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATIONS AND AGENCIES

Updated March 18, 2026

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**PROFESSIONAL CPR**



**FIRST AID & CPR**



**POOL & LAKE  
LIFEGUARD**



**OCEAN & TIDAL  
WATERS**



**TRAINED POOL  
OPERATOR**



**POOL  
DIRECTOR**



PRIOR TO STARTING THE COURSE, PLEASE VERIFY THE NAME OF THE CERTIFICATION  
MATCHES THE NAME ON THIS LIST!

## PROFESSIONAL CPR



Professional level CPR is required for all **HEALTH DIRECTORS** at youth camps.

Professional level CPR is required for at least one individual at all public recreational bathing facilities.

Only blended CPR courses (online courses with an instructor evaluated skills test) are recognized. Online courses without an instructor evaluated skill test are not recognized.

This list may not include the most recent changes made by the individual certifying agencies.

### American Red Cross

- ◇ Basic Life Support
- ◇ CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer
- ◇ Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
- ◇ Advanced Life Support (ALS)
- ◇ Lifeguarding

### American Heart Association

- ◇ BLS Provider (formerly BLS Healthcare Provider)
- ◇ BLS instructor-led training (100% classroom)
- ◇ HeartCode® BLS (blended course)
- ◇ HeartCode® ACLS (blended course)
- ◇ HeartCode® PALS (blended course)
- ◇ ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support) Healthcare Provider
- ◇ ACLS for Experienced Providers (100% class- room)
- ◇ ACLS instructor-led training (100% classroom)
- ◇ PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support)
- ◇ P.E.A.R.S. (Pediatric Advanced Emergency Assessment Recognition and Stabilization)

### American Safety and Health Institute

- ◇ Basic Life Support (BLS)
- ◇ ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support)
- ◇ PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support)

### Emergency Care and Safety Institute

- ◇ Basic Life Support (BLS)

### EMS Safety Services

- ◇ CPR & AED for Professional Rescuer

### National Safety Council

- ◇ NCS Basic Life Support for Healthcare and Professional Rescuers

### American Aquatics and Safety Training (AAST)

- ◇ CPR/AED for BLS Providers
- ◇ CPR/AED for the Professionals
- ◇ CPR/AED for Lifeguards
- ◇ Lifeguard, CPR/AED, First Aid
- ◇ Lifeguard, CPR/AED, First Aid, Recertification
- ◇ Lifeguard, Waterfront, CPR/AED, First Aid
- ◇ Lifeguard, Waterfront, CPR/AED, First Aid Recertification
- ◇ Shallow pool lifeguard, CPR/AED, First Aid



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## FIRST AID & CPR



Blended first aid courses (online course with an instructor evaluated skills test) are recognized.

Online courses without an instructor evaluated skills test are not recognized.

**Unless otherwise noted as Advanced Level, all certifications are considered Standard Level** and are not acceptable for a Health Director at a residential camp facility.

### Requirements for a health director at all RESIDENT CAMPS (N.J.A.C. 8:25-5.2 (a)):

- A physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in New Jersey.
- A registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse licensed by the NJ State Board of Nursing.
- An individual who is certified in advanced first aid, as a paramedic or emergency medical technician or first responder/CIM accredited by the Department or by the American Red Cross in their First Responder training.
- An athletic trainer certified by the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification (NATABOC), with the appropriate level of training provided by the National Safety Council, or an equivalent certification approved by the Department.

"Professional level CPR," or "CPR Level C," is a certification for people who may need to respond to emergencies, such as police officers, firefighters, childcare workers, and lifeguards. It covers how to perform CPR on adults, children, and infants, and includes training on how to work with another person to provide CPR when necessary.

#### American Red Cross

- ◇ Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED
- ◇ Adult and Child First Aid/CPR/AED
- ◇ Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED
- ◇ Child First Aid/CPR/AED
- ◇ Wilderness First Aid: Standard Level
- ◇ First Aid - Responding to Emergencies: Standard
- ◇ Emergency Medical Response Advanced Level

#### American Heart Association

- ◇ Heartsaver® First Aid (blended and classroom)
- ◇ Heartsaver® First Aid CPR/AED (blended and classroom)
- ◇ Heartsaver® Pediatric First Aid CPR/AED (blended and classroom)

#### EMS Safety Services

- ◇ Basic First Aid

#### Wilderness Medical Associates

- ◇ Wilderness First Aid\*
- ◇ Wilderness Advanced First Aid\*
- ◇ Wilderness First Responder\*\*

- ◇ Basic First Aid
- ◇ Wilderness First Aid
- ◇ Wilderness First Aid Responder (Advanced Level)
- ◇ Wilderness EMT Upgrade (Advanced Level)
- ◇ CPR/AED and Basic First Aid Combination
- ◇ Pediatric CPR/AED and First Aid
  - ◇ MEDIC First Aid *BasicPlus*
  - ◇ MEDIC First Aid *PediatricsPlus*

#### Emergency Care and Safety Institute

- ◇ Standard First Aid, CPR and AED
- ◇ Wilderness First Aid
- ◇ Advanced First Aid, CPR, AED

#### National Safety Council

- ◇ NCS First Aid
- ◇ NCS First Aid, CPR & AED
- ◇ NCS Pediatric First Aid, CPR & AED
- ◇ NCS Advanced First Aid, CPR & AED

\* Requires an additional Professional level CPR to act as a Health Director.

\*\* Meets the requirements to be a Health Director in both day and resident camps.



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## POOL & LAKE LIFEGUARD



### Lifeguard Certifications for Swimming Pools and Lake Bathing

All of the below include recertification options.

#### [American Aquatics and Safety Training](#)

(2-year certification)

- ◇ Lifeguard, CPR/AED, First Aid
- ◇ Lifeguard, Waterfront, CPR/AED, First Aid
- ◇ Shallow Pool Lifeguard, CPR/AED, First Aid
- ◇ Waterfront lifeguarding (must be combined with lifeguard certification)

#### [American Red Cross](#) (2-year certification)

- ◇ Lifeguarding
- ◇ Shallow Water Lifeguard (7 feet and under, 6 feet and under, 5 feet and under)
- ◇ Aquatic Attraction Lifeguarding (Water Less than or equal to 3 ft)

#### [Boy Scouts of America](#) (3-year certification)

- ◇ BSA Lifeguard

#### [Ellis & Associates Inc. International Lifeguard Training Program \(ILTP\)](#) (1-year certification)

- ◇ Special Facilities Lifeguard (Water parks and open waters only)
- ◇ Pool Lifeguard (Max 16' depth flat pools only)
- ◇ Shallow Water Lifeguard (Max 5' depth flat pools only) **NOTE:** All levels of ILTP include certification in Professional Level CPR, AED, Emergency Oxygen Support and First Aid

#### [International Life Saving Program \(ILS\)](#)

Certification name specifies qualification

**NOTE:** A current challenge test is required providing that a recognized lifeguard course was taken and passed in the past four years or must retake a full lifeguard course

#### [Lifeguard -Pro](#)

- ◇ Lifeguard certification
- ◇ Waterfront
- ◇ Non-Tidal Waterfront (excluding oceans and tidal waters)

#### [National Aquatics Safety Company](#) (1-year certification)

- ◇ Basic Lifeguard
  - ◇ Water park Deep Water ( $\geq 5'$ )
  - ◇ Water park Shallow Water ( $< 5'$ )
  - ◇ Open Water Lifeguard (excludes Ocean and Tidal waters)
- \* All levels of NASCO include certification in Professional Level CPR, AED, Emergency Oxygen Support and First Aid

#### [Starfish Aquatics Institute](#) (1-year certification)

- ◇ Lifeguarding

#### [StarGuard Elite®](#) (1-year certification)

- ◇ Pool - Waterpark - Waterfront (non-tidal) Lifeguard Training (excludes Ocean and Tidal waters)
- \*CPR/AED Professional Rescuer, Basic First Aid, Blood-borne Pathogens, and Emergency Oxygen certifications are issued through the American Safety & Health Institute.



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## Lifeguard Certifications for Swimming Pools and Lake Bathing

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All of the below include recertification options.

### [World Academy of Safety and Health \(WASH\)](#)

(1-year certification)

- ◇ Pool - Waterfront (non-tidal) Lifeguard Training (excludes Ocean and Tidal waters)
- ◇ Water park Deep Water ( $\geq 5'$ )
- ◇ Water park Shallow Water ( $< 5'$ )

### [Young Men's Christian Association](#) (2-year certification)

- ◇ YMCA Lifeguard



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## OCEAN & TIDAL WATERS



Listed below are the Agencies recognized by the Department to provide training to oceanfront and tidal waters lifeguards.

Individuals employed by these Agencies are expected to complete the Agency-specific training yearly.

[United States Lifesaving Association \(USLA\)](#) ----- 3-year certification

[South Jersey Lifeguard Chiefs Association](#) ----- Annual certification

[North Shore Lifeguards Association](#) ----- Annual certification

[Ocean Lifesaving Association](#) ----- Annual certification

[NJ Certification United States Lifesaving Association](#) ----- Annual certification

## TRAINED POOL OPERATOR



"Trained pool operator" or "TPO" means an individual who is responsible for compliance with the requirements of Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing Code at swimming pools, wading pools, hot tubs, spas, and aquatic recreation facilities, and is certified by an organization approved by the Department listed in Appendix A.

FAQ: What is the difference between TPO and CPO?

A: CPO is one example of Trained Pool Operator training certificates recognized by the Department. Certified Trained Pool Operator (CPO) is a proprietary name, whereas Trained Pool Operator (TPO) is a generic term.

### American Swimming Pool and Spa Assn. (ASPSA)

Licensed Aquatic Facility Technician (LAFT) ----- 5-year certification

### Association of Pool and Spa Professionals (APSP)

Certified Service Professional (CSP) ----- 5-year certification

### Aquatics Training Institute (ATI)

Commercial Pool Technician (CPT) ----- 5-year certification

### National Pool and Spa Institute (NSPI)

Professional Pool and Spa Operator (PPSO) ----- 5-year certification

### National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)

Aquatics Facilities Operator (AFO) ----- 3-year certification

### National Swimming Pool Foundation (NSPF)

Certified Pool Operator (CPO) 100% Online Course ----- 5-year certification

### North Shore Lifeguards Association (NSLA)

North Shore Certified Pool Operator (NSCPO) ----- 3-year certification

### Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)

Pool Operator on Location (POOL) ----- 5-year certification

### Starfish Aquatics Institute

AQUATECH® Pool Operator Certification Program ----- 5-year certification

### Pool & Hot Tub Professionals Association (PHTPA)

CPO<sup>SM</sup> FOR COMMERCIAL OPERATORS ----- 5-year certification

PPSO<sup>SM</sup> FOR COMMERCIAL OPERATORS ----- 5-year certification

**POOL  
DIRECTOR**



**N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.2 Swimming pool supervision**

Designated adult supervisor.

A swimming pool shall be under the management of a designated adult supervisor who is knowledgeable of this chapter and who shall be responsible for all phases of the operation.

**For pools larger than 2,000 square feet, the designated adult supervisor shall possess pool director training certification.**

**Pool Operation Management**

POM Pool Director Training ————— 3-year certification

**American Pool Enterprises**

Garden State Pool Director Certification ————— 3-year certification

**American Red Cross**

Lifeguard Management ————— 2-year certification

**Making Waves Swim School**

New Jersey Pool Director ————— 3-year certification

**Ellis & Associates**

Vanguard Aquatics Leadership Training Course ————— 2-year certification

**StarGuard Elite**

ELITE Supervisor -pool director ————— 2-year certification