



POLICY

The Lifesaving Society will not issue certifications to candidates who do not have the required prerequisites.

The Lifesaving Society alone determines the prerequisites to its training programs. The Lifesaving Society will not:

- Waive prerequisites to its certifications or Lifesaving Sport eligibility requirements; or
- Grant equivalency status to any other national or international agency's Assistant Lifeguard or Lifeguard award.

Award Prerequisites: Prerequisite awards must be earned prior to the start of the course to which they apply. Prerequisite awards need not be current.

Prerequisite awards must be checked on the first day of the course. If a candidate cannot provide proof of prerequisites (e.g., forgot their certification at home), they must show proof of prerequisites by the second day of the course (if applicable).

Candidates who cannot present proof of prerequisites by the second day of a course are not permitted to continue in the course.

When two or more awards are offered together (e.g., Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross), the Society deems the prerequisite award to have been earned in the correct order.

Acceptable verification of prerequisite awards are:

- A Lifesaving Society temporary card current within 60 days.
- A Lifesaving Society issued certification card.
- A Lifesaving Society Find-a-Member print-out with a verification code. Instructors must enter the verification code on the Lifesaving Society's website to confirm proof of awards.
- Lifesaving Society awards verified on the Lifesaving Society's website using Find-a-Member.
- First Aid certification card issued from St. John Ambulance, Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada, Canadian Red Cross, or Canadian Ski Patrol.

Age Prerequisites: Minimum age requirements must be attained by the day of certification. There are no exceptions.

Age prerequisites can be confirmed by government-issued identification (e.g., birth certificate, passport, BC Services Card, driver's license, or other legal government-issued identification).

More than One Award Per Day: Candidates may be evaluated for more than one award per day, provided they hold the prerequisites. When two or more awards are evaluated together, the Society deems the prerequisite award to have been earned in the correct order. Candidates being evaluated for an award must complete all items required for that award.

Other Lifesaving Society Branches: Prerequisites from other Lifesaving Society Branches in Canada are recognized. Awards must be transferred from their home Branch before certification can be issued in BC & Yukon.

Foreign Certifications: Individuals with foreign awards may request a review of their certifications to determine what training should be undertaken to acquire the appropriate Canadian certification(s).

This policy replaces:

- Prerequisite Policy (2020)

BC & Yukon Branch

112-3989 Henning Drive
Burnaby, BC V5C 6N5
info@lifesaving.bc.ca
lifesaving.bc.ca
604.299.5450