



Gold Medallion

Candidate Induction Booklet

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What Is the Gold Medallion?

The Gold Medallion is the pinnacle of surf lifesaving. If you can achieve your Gold Medallion, you are among the fittest and most capable lifesavers on the beach. The Gold Medallion may also be used as a minimum benchmark for employment in the professional lifeguard industry.

How can you qualify?

Prerequisites

To attempt a Gold Medallion assessment, candidates will need to:

- be at least 17 years old on the date of assessment
- hold and be proficient in all of the following SLSA awards:
 - Bronze Medallion (and your Certificate II in Public Safety)
 - First Aid
 - Advanced Resuscitation Techniques
 - Silver Medallion Beach Management or Silver Medallion Basic Beach Management.

Assessment

To pass the Gold Medallion candidates will need to complete all of the following activities in the one day:

- Swim 800 m in under 14 minutes in an open-water course not more than 400 m in length (the course should be set around a single buoy so that candidates have to swim the same track but in different directions) or a swimming pool of no less than 25 m in length, unaided and in freestyle
- complete a mission test of a 400 m swim, 800 m run, 400 m board paddle, 800 m run in under 25 minutes
- complete a tube rescue of an unconscious patient 100 m out at sea (use of fins preferred)
- complete a board rescue of a novice swimmer 200 m out at sea
- perform a complex patient rescue, including selecting equipment, returning patient to shore and treating patient appropriately and completing postoperational requirements.

Candidates must display a sense of urgency equal to a real situation in all rescue activities (tube, board and complex scenario).

What do you get with your Gold Medallion?

The Gold Medallion is an SLSA award. It is also aligned to the nationally recognised unit of competency PUASAR017A Undertake advanced surf rescue. This unit is part of the PUA31312 Certificate III in Public Safety (Aquatic Search and Rescue). You can apply for the unit and your Certificate III through your state centre.

What happens on the day of assessment?

You will need to participate in a short briefing that will cover:

- work, health and safety induction
- assessment procedure.

Work, health and safety induction

- Personal limitations
- Sun protection
- Hydration
- One-person carry

Assessment procedure

- Candidate completes all tasks required.
- Assessor completes paperwork—you can use the candidate tracking tool provided to record each candidate's result.
- Surfguard record updated and certificates issued.
- Candidate can apply for the unit of competency and their Certificate III where relevant.

Complex rescue scenarios for Assessment Task 5

Assessment criteria for the complex scenario

- Identify the patient(s).
- Pause and plan.
- Select equipment.
- Communicate action plan to the chain of command.
- Request assistance (where required).
- Retrieve patients.
- Treat patients appropriately.
- Complete paperwork (your assessor will give you an SLSA incident report form to complete for your scenario).
- Participate in an operational debrief (your assessor will play the role of duty officer or supervisor as required).
- Identify indicators of critical incident stress.

Your assessor will assign you one of the below options to undertake as your complex scenario assessment.

Option 1

- Three people are caught in a rip 100 m to the north of the flagged area. One of them is a strong swimmer, but the other two are struggling.
- On return to shore one patient vomits water and can't stop coughing.

Option 2

- Four ski paddlers of differing abilities are caught in a rip close to rocks. They are signalling for help.
- When you approach the group, you see that a patient is having an asthma attack.

Option 3

- A member of the public advises you that they have seen two swimmers in trouble at the next beach north of the one you are patrolling. It is over 1 km away.
- By the time you get both patients to shore, one is unconscious yet still breathing.

Option 4

- Two people enter the water and walk straight into a rip, next to the flagged area. They immediately get swept out to sea. Only one of them can swim and is struggling to hold the other one afloat.
- On return to shore one of the patients starts experiencing chest pain.

Option 5

- Two surfers approach you requiring urgent assistance. Their friend is unconscious in the surf zone, approximately 40 m from shore.
- You pull the unconscious patient from the water and determine that they are not breathing.

Assessment Portfolio

Participant details

First name	Last name
Date of birth	Age at assessment
Club	Branch

Assessment summary

Assessment task	Assessment details	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
WHS induction	Personal limitations and safe lifting briefing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 1	800 m swim < 14 mins (Time:__:__:__)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 2	Mission test < 25 mins (Time:__:__:__)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 3	100 m tube rescue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 4	200 m board rescue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task 5	Complex rescue scenario	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CANDIDATE IS COMPETENT? YES/NO

Assessor name
Assessor signature
Date