



The life of the beach.

SURF LIFE SAVING SA
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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

TO JOIN CREW OF THE WESTPAC LIFE SAVER RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE

The Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter Service is service which conducts regular surveillance patrols and rescue missions in the Metropolitan, Mid and Far South Coast areas.

The Service works closely with the volunteer beach patrols of clubs and actively supports the SLSSA strategy of making South Australian beaches safer. The Service also provides support to other volunteer emergency services and will work closely with government agencies such as the Police, Fire, Ambulance Services and AUSSAR.

The Service participates in Surf Life Saving SA's Community Education Program attending schools, community groups and emergency service units.

We are currently seeking applications from suitably qualified and proficient Surf Life Savers to undertake training and operational duties as part of the Helicopter crew. This is a demanding and challenging position.

As a Helicopter crew member you will be expected to complete rostered volunteer helicopter patrols on weekends and public holidays, attend training sessions and crew meetings and participate in any other activities organised by the Service.

In addition to any helicopter duties you will be required to maintain an active interest in your club and complete all beach patrol commitments as required by your club.

All candidates should be aware that only limited vacancies are available.

Minimum Crew Applicant Criteria

To be suitable to submit an application you must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Be physically fit.
- Be of the age of at least 21 years.
- Be a financial and proficient member of an affiliated Surf Life Saving Club.
- Have completed a minimum of four (4) years active beach patrol.
- Have the written endorsement of your Club and Branch.
- Be proficient in the minimum awards as outlined below.
- Attend and pass the helicopter crew fitness tests.

Minimum SLSA Awards

If you do not hold these awards you cannot apply for this position. All awards must be current.

- Bronze Medallion
- Advanced Resuscitation Certificate
- You must also hold a current Senior First Aid Certificate [SLSA or other].

Other awards additional to those specified above will be taken into account when selecting candidates. Demonstrated IRB experience will be particularly well regarded.



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Helicopter Crew Fitness/Operational Test Requirements

The final fitness test criteria are continually being reassessed in light of the expanded nature of the service. The tests are different from those normally associated with Surf Lifesaving activities. They have and will continue to be designed to ensure that all crew can demonstrate the physical endurance and strength required to safely and efficiently carry out Helicopter crew duties.

Full harness equipped swim sprints, patient drags, and treading water for extended periods whilst dressed, are typical of the tests performed.

At a minimum trainee crew applicants who meet the minimum award criteria will be required to complete the following to continue to the next stage:

- 400m swim within a time limit of no more than 8 minutes.
- 1.6km run within a time limit of no more than 7 minutes
- Departure off 10m high diving platform – (simulated aircraft departure)

Other Requirements

Crew applicants may be required to undertake one or a series of other assessments from time to time.

All applicants must be conscious of operational factors including that patrol days are generally from 1000 – 1900 and that new trainee crew will be rostered for training/patrol a minimum of once in every two to three week period.

Interview Process

All applicants may be required to submit to a selection interview before a panel comprising the Aerial Services Adviser, the Crew Chief and the Chief Pilot.

Applications

Applications must be submitted on a Helicopter Services Application Form which can be obtained by contacting SLSSA on 8354 6900 or from the Web Site www.surfrescue.com.au

Overview of Process

- Applications received
- Applicants that meet award criteria invited to complete swim, run and high board test.
- Applicants that pass this stage invited to interview (if required).
- Successful applicants from interview advised and invited to participate in formal crew training activity.

Not all applicants will be successful due to the limitations on numbers.