

Frequently Asked Questions about Becoming a Junior Guard

What are Junior Lifeguards required to wear as a uniform?

Junior lifeguards are required to purchase a black swim suit/trunks as part of their uniform. Females may wear cotton solid black shorts but don't have to wear shorts. They will be given an official City of Tempe Junior Lifeguard T-shirt that must be worn at all times while on duty. Sandals are also recommended for Junior Guards to have while working. If you are working at an outdoor pool sunglasses, sunscreen, and a white or straw hat are also required as part of your uniform.

What are the available hours to work?

Most pools are open most of the day M-F and are open in the afternoon on the weekends. There are hours available to fit everyone's schedule. At most pools there are lessons during the morning and evening and recreation swim times are in the afternoon. Depending on your availability most Junior Guards enjoy a rotating schedule from week to week. However, if they want to aide in teaching swim lessons they must be available for the whole session. This allows the Juniors Guards to get to know other Juniors Guards and to also be able to work with different lifeguards as well.

How do vacations and needed days off work?

At the beginning of the summer we ask if the Junior Guards know of any days that they need off, for example, a family vacation or a wedding. We also know that plans change over the summer so we try our hardest to accommodate Juniors Guards and their needs as far as time off is concerned. However, we do ask that the Junior Guards request time off at least **2 weeks** prior to the day that they need off. They are also allowed to switch or get shifts covered by another Jr. Guard working at the same pool with a coordinator's permission.

What are mandatory weekly trainings?

Our job as a Junior Guard Coordinator is to prepare Junior Guards to become the best Lifeguards that they can be. Mandatory weekly trainings are part of a lifeguard's job; so Jr. Guards will also be required to attend weekly Junior Guard trainings. At these meetings the Junior Guards and Coordinators will discuss issues from the previous week, they will discuss up coming events at the pools, practice their CPR and First Aid skills, swim, and they will also learn something new each week about lifeguarding.

What are the mandatory trainings before the summer starts?

These trainings are **required** in order to join the Junior Guard program. At these trainings Junior Guards will be introduced to CPR, First Aid, Swimming Instructor Aide, and Basic Water Safety. These are all skills that the Junior Guards will need to know in order to be successful over the summer.

Do I get paid?

No you do not get paid. Being a Junior Guard is a **volunteer** position with the City of Tempe. However, once you complete 100 volunteer hours as a Junior Guard, and you turn 15, the City will pay for you to take you American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Course free of charge through the City of Tempe. That is a \$110 class for **free!** Junior Guard Coordinators are also good references for high school and other programs that you are wanting to become involved in.

What are my duties and responsibilities?

As a Junior Guard your biggest help to the Lifeguards will be as a Swimming Instructor Aide. Teaching swim lessons is a big part of the City's summer aquatic program and Junior Guards are an essential part of the program in order to make it a successful summer. Junior Guards are used as helpers during swim lessons. Junior Guards are also needed during open/recreation swim as well. During these times Junior Guards will be asked to enforce rules, such as no running, to people of all ages.

Where can I volunteer?

There are three pools; 1 indoor; *Kiwanis Wave Pool* 6111 S. All America Way.
2 outdoor; *McClintock Pool* 1830 E. Del Rio Dr. and *Escalante Pool* 2150 E. Orange St.
The Junior Guards are able to choose from any one of these pools.

Do I have to know how to swim?

Yes, you should be able to swim freestyle, backstroke, and breaststroke and be able to tread water for a minute, plus have knowledge of sidestroke and butterfly. You **do not** need to be on a swim team, but knowing how to swim is an essential part of being a Junior Lifeguard. You will be swimming at your weekly training sessions and as stated above Junior Guards help out during swim lessons as well.

Can I have my friends and family come visit while I am working?

Yes, your friends and family may come and pay to use the swimming pool while you are on duty, **BUT** hanging out with them or goofing off while on duty is **NOT ACCEPTABLE!** If your friends and family come to visit you while you are working as long as you are acting professional and the head guard or manager OK's you, you may hang out with them while on a break.

If you have any questions please call the Jr. Guard Hotline at 480-350-5731 or you can e-mail Morgan, the Jr. Guard Program Coordinator, at Morgan_Bright@tempe.gov

VISIT THE WEBSITE AT: www.tempe.gov/pools/juniorguard

