



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®

The Lifeguarding Experts

Communique

Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch Notice

July 15, 2021

Lifesaving Society Program Revisions

Updates to Bronze Medal Awards, and 2021 Mandatory Updates

Over the last few years, the Bronze Medal Awards have gone under an extensive review process and as a result the National Programs have been revised:

- To reflect the Society's current research into drowning in Canada including the incidence and consequences of non-fatal drowning;
- To focus on the core areas of competency in water rescue: skills, knowledge, fitness and judgement;
- To improve skill progressions for a logical and seamless flow into National Lifeguard and to set candidates up for success as they move through the Society's lifesaving, assistant lifeguard, and lifeguard continuum.

This is one of the largest program revisions in the Society's history and is currently being rolled out across the country.

Completing the Update

The Mandatory Update needs to be completed via the Lifesaving Society Online Academy (<https://courses.lifesaving.org/>). This update includes an overview and orientation to the changes reflected in the Bronze Medal Awards programs and resources. All participants that complete the update will receive the required literature and resources to deliver the new programs.

The update is for all Lifesaving Trainers and Instructors who deliver, teach, and evaluate Lifesaving Society Leadership and/or candidate level Lifesaving Programs. These leadership volunteers are to complete the **Update Process** below.

The Update Process

Lifesaving Trainers and Instructors must complete the following steps:

The Lifesaving Society Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch

Charitable Registration No. 11912 9021 RR0001

1-780-415-1755 || <http://www.lifesaving.org>

13123 - 156 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5V 1V2

- Register and complete the Online 2021 Bronze Medals Mandatory Update via the Lifesaving Society Online Course Academy
- Review and understand the Mandatory Update Implementation Timeline
- Review and understand changes to Policies and Procedures
- Review and understand changes to Program Resources
- Review and understand changes to Program Content
- Receive and review **New Program Resources**

New Program Resources

New and revised resources include the following:

- The **Bronze Medals Award Guide** has been completely revised and updated. This edition of the Award Guide replaces all previous editions.
- The **Bronze Medals Lesson Plans** have been completely revised & updated. They are now aligned to the Leadership Competency Model. Activities in the new lesson plans are less prescriptive & reinforce Instructor's application of knowledge, skills, and attitudes while planning and teaching Bronze Medal courses.
- The **Bronze Cross Course Book** is a new resource that features content updates for the Bronze Cross Program. The Bronze Cross Course Book is the primary resource for Bronze Cross candidates. It contains relevant information to assistant lifeguards that is not outlined within the Canadian Lifesaving Manual.
- The **Test Sheets** have been completely revised and updated

The Canadian Lifesaving Manual remains the primary candidate resource for the Bronze Star and Bronze Medallion programs.

Implementation Timeline

July 5, 2021

- Launch of Mandatory Update
- New Bronze Medals Literature and Resources Available
- Updated Swim and LSI Award Guide Available
- New Swim and LSI Pacs Available

July 31, 2021

- Previous Swim and LSI Award Guide Retired
- Previous Swim and LSI Pacs Retired

August 1, 2021

- Launch of Updated LSI Course

December 31, 2021

- Previous Bronze Medals Retired
- Affiliates and Facilities Must Transition to New Bronze Program

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January 1, 2022

- All Lifesaving Trainers and Instructors wishing deliver Bronze Programs must complete the Mandatory Update

Note:

- In order to deliver LSI courses after July 31, 2021, Lifesaving Trainers must complete the Mandatory Update
- In order to deliver the New Bronze courses Lifesaving Instructors must complete the Mandatory Update or must be certified on or after August 1, 2021

Notes for Affiliates

N/A

Society Supports

Affiliate Information Sessions will be hosted bi-weekly via webinar. These sessions will review details regarding the program updates as well as provide an opportunity for Affiliates to engage directly with the Society and discuss program policy changes and implementation.

Affiliates are encouraged to attend these information sessions on a date that works best for them. Register for a session by selecting a date below:

- [July 28, 2021](#)
- [August 11, 2021](#)
- [August 25, 2021](#)
- [September 8, 2021](#)
- [September 22, 2021](#)

Ordering Materials

During this transition period it is important that Affiliates indicate which program they are delivering - old or new - when ordering course materials online or over the phone.

Affiliates must also ensure that they continue to order medals for participants as needed. This aligns with the soon to be retired paper certifications and will allow for candidates to receive this instant recognition item.

Policy and Procedures

Affiliates must ensure that Trainers and Instructors meet pre-requisites, hold current awards, and have completed any relevant mandatory updates.

If you have any questions regarding the information above please contact the Lifesaving Society experts@lifesaving.org.

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