



Maldives National Skills Development Authority



# National Competency Standard for Lifeguarding

Standard Code: TOU-14L5-V1-25

Qualification Name: National Diploma in Lifeguarding

## FOREWORD

The pivotal role of the Maldives National Skills Development Authority (MNSDA) in meticulously implementing and expanding Technical and Vocational Education & Training (TVET) exemplifies the steadfast commitment of the Maldives to build a skilled and resilient workforce. This commitment is evident from the strategic formulation of National Standards and the establishment of a comprehensive framework for training and certification.

Under the Higher Education and Training Act 7/2021, the MNSDA assumes an instrumental role, reflecting the government's unwavering dedication to streamlining TVET policies and procedures. This includes the establishment of a robust system for accrediting and registering both Institution Based Training (IBT) and Employer Based Training (EBT) providers. The MNSDA's active involvement in conducting the National Apprenticeship Program (NAP), National Trade Testing and Certification (NTTC), and the issuance of National Certificates reflects a comprehensive approach to ensure elevated quality standards and competency within the workforce.

The National Competency Standards (NCS) revised through the Maldives Enhancing Employability and Resilience of Youth (MEERY) project accentuates the commitment to updating and sustaining contemporary skill sets aligned precisely with industry demands. Deliberate efforts to revise existing NCS, coupled with the development of curriculum, teaching materials, resource books, and logbooks, attest to our dedication to ensuring the ongoing relevance and currency of the TVET system in the Maldives.

The active engagement of Technical Panels and Employment Sector Councils in the NCS development and approval process, coupled with alignment to the Maldives National Qualification Framework (MNQF) and accreditation by the Maldives Qualifications Authority (MQA), certifies that the TVET system not only remains highly responsive but also ensures the quality standards demanded by industries. This approach enables the system to effectively meet the diverse needs of industries and adapt to the evolving economic landscape.

The collaborative development of the National Diploma in Lifeguarding by the MNSDA, MEERY, and the Maldives Institute of Technology exemplifies the practical implementation of TVET initiatives. This training package represents a critical stride towards addressing the requisite skills while fostering opportunities to integrate sustainable economic development within the TVET framework.




Dr. Zahra Mohamed

Chief Executive Officer

Maldives National Skills Development Authority

EMPLOYMENT SECTOR COUNCILS			
#	Name	Designation	Organisation
01	Aishath Ali	Director General	Ministry of Tourism
02	Uzma Abdul Latheef	Executive,Investor Services,Invest Maldives	Ministry of Economic Development & Trade
03	Ali Adam	HR Consultant	Maldives Association of Tourism Industry
04	Yazeedh Mohamed Fulhu	Apprenticeship and Talent Acquisition Manager	Four Seasons Resort Maldives
05	Zeenath Solih (Chair)	Dean	Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Studies
06	Nafiz Mohamed	Tourism Expert	Nafiz Mohamed
07	Zoona Naseem	Managing Director	Moodhu Bulhaa Dive Center
08	Fathimath Haula	Program Officer	Maldives National Skills Development Authority

National Occupational Standard has been endorsed by:	
	
<p>Zeenath Solih Chairperson Tourism Sector Council</p>	
<p>Maldives National Skills Development Authority Umar Zahir Office Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Orchid Ma higun, HulhuMale' , Republic of Maldives.</p>	
<p>Date of Endorsement: 30/01/2025</p>	

TECHNICAL SUPPORT			
#	Name	Designation	Organisation
01			
02			

TECHNICAL PANEL MEMBERS			
#	Name	Designation	Organisation
01	Mohamed Shizleen	Head of training school	Maldives Swimming and Life Saving Skills Training School
02	Adam Ashraf	Freelance Instructor trainer	
03	Abdulla Faisal	Maritime Instructor	Maldives National University

VERSION	DEVELOPER	DATE	STANDARD CODE
V1	Maldives Institute of Technology	21/01/2024	TOU-14L5-V1-25

## Standard Development Process

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The development of the “National Diploma in Lifeguarding” Standard involved a comprehensive study of Lifeguarding occupations in Maldivian workplaces, with a focus on tourism enterprises. Job descriptions and international occupational trends were analysed to draft an initial Occupational Standard. This draft will undergo further refinement through a Technical Panel (TP) from Maldivian workplaces, ensuring incorporation of competencies and edits. The TP will provide technical input, suggesting changes to the standard, until a final draft is agreed upon. The approved Final Draft will then be submitted to the Tourism Employment Sector Council for endorsement and validation. A brief report detailing the compilation process will accompany the Standard for the Council's review, and any recommended changes will be addressed before final endorsement.

With the endorsement from the Tourism Employment Sector Council, the finalised National Occupational Standard for Lifeguarding will be submitted to the Maldives Qualification Authority (MQA) for final approval. Upon receiving MQA approval, the standard will be officially published on the Maldives National Skills Development Authority (MNSDA) website. This publication will enable training providers in the Maldives to utilise the standard for delivering the Lifeguarding program, ensuring its widespread implementation across the country

## Description of “Lifeguarding”

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The "Lifeguarding" standard is a foundational guideline designed to cultivate essential skills in water safety and rescue operations. This program is dedicated to equipping individuals with fundamental competencies crucial for effective surveillance, hazard analysis, and emergency response in aquatic environments. Participants will gain practical insights into core lifeguarding techniques and practices, emphasising the significance of swift identification and prevention of potential hazards to ensure water safety.

The certification serves as an entry point for professionals entering the field of lifeguarding, providing a robust foundation in the fundamental skills necessary for implementing and managing efficient water safety and rescue systems. This standard is particularly valuable for individuals aiming to establish proficiency in delivering high-quality, safe, and effective lifeguarding services, contributing to a secure aquatic environment within their respective communities.

## Proposed Qualification Titles

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Following are the recommended titles by the selected internal expert team of MIT for the National Diploma in Lifeguarding.

1. Nil-

## Job opportunities upon completion of “National Diploma in Lifeguarding”

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Upon successful completion of the National Diploma in Lifeguarding, students can work in the following jobs.

1. *Open water lifeguard*
2. *Lifeguarding supervisor*
3. *Watersports Manager*

## KEY FOR CODING

### Coding Competency Standards and Related Materials

DESCRIPTION	REPRESENTED BY
Industry Sector as per ESC (Three letters)	Construction Sector (CON) Fisheries and Agriculture (FNA) Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Transport Sector (TRN) Tourism Sector(TOU) Social Sector (SOC) Foundation (FOU)
Standard Number - Occupation with in an industry sector	Two digits 01-99
Common Competency	CM
Core Competency	CC
Unit Number - Occupation within a Standard	Three digits 01-99
MNQF level of qualification	L1, L2, L3, L4 etc.
Version Number	V1, V2 etc.
Separator	-
Year of Last Review of standard, qualification	Two digits responding to the year of last review, example 23 for the year 2023
Qualification Code	Refers to Standard code in cover page

1. Endorsement Application for Qualification 01		
2. NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN LIFEGUARDING		
3. Qualification code: TOU-14L5-V1-25		Total Number of Credits: 150
<b>4. Purpose of the qualification</b> The Diploma in Lifeguarding aims to equip individuals with comprehensive knowledge, practical skills, and a profound understanding of lifeguarding roles and responsibilities. This program focuses on preparing participants to execute critical safety measures, apply legal considerations in various situations, and effectively manage emergencies both in and out of water. Through rigorous training, candidates will learn to assess risks, implement safety protocols, and communicate efficiently within lifeguard teams. Graduates will emerge proficient in performing crucial lifesaving techniques, managing injuries, and handling diverse aquatic-related incidents.		
5. Regulations for the qualification		National Diploma in the occupation of Lifeguarding will be awarded to those who are competent in units 1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12+13+14+15+16+17+18
6. Schedule of Units		
Unit No.	Unit Title	Code
<b>Common Competencies</b>		
01	Apply writing and ICT skills	TOU-01-CM01-V1-24
02	Apply inclusive tourism management	TOU-06-CM01-V1-24
03	Manage customer experience and relationship	TOU-01-CM03-V1-24
04	Demonstrate leadership and management skills	TOU-01-CM04-V1-24
05	Conduct research methods and data management	TOU-14-CM01-V1-25
<b>Core Competencies</b>		
06	Interpret weather and environmental conditions for outdoor recreation activities	TOU-14-CC01-V1-25
07	Administer oxygen in an emergency situation	TOU-14-CC02-V1-25
08	Perform advanced water rescues	TOU-14-CC03-V1-25
09	Develop swimming skills	TOU-14-CC04-V1-25
10	Operate and maintain water crafts for rescue operations	TOU-14-CC05-V1-25
11	Apply primary and secondary first-aid	TOU-14-CC06-V1-25
12	Ensure compliance with aquatic standards	TOU-14-CC07-V1-25
13	Manage incidents and investigate safety concerns	TOU-14-CC08-V1-25
14	Understand and implement staffing regulations	TOU-14-CC09-V1-25
15	Implement aquatic hiring requirements and training programs	TOU-14-CC10-V1-25

16	Apply free diving techniques	TOU-14-CC11-V1-25
17	Develop aquatic programs and services	TOU-14-CC12-V1-25
18	Prevent and manage aquatic emergencies	TOU-14-CC13-V1-25
<b>7. Accreditation requirements</b>		The training provider should have made arrangements to ensure students are provided with adequate theory and practicals for them to develop all the required knowledge and skills stipulated in the National Competency Standard.
<b>8. Recommended sequencing of units</b>		As appearing under the section 06



## Unit Details

Unit No.	Unit Title	Code	Level	No. of credits	Credit hours	Contact hours
01	Apply writing and ICT skills	TOU-01-CM01-V1-24	V	10	100	50
02	Apply inclusive tourism management	TOU-06-CM01-V1-24	V	10	100	50
03	Manage customer experience and relationship	TOU-01-CM03-V1-24	V	10	100	50
04	Demonstrate leadership and management skills	TOU-01-CM04-V1-24	V	10	100	50
05	Conduct research methods and data management	TOU-14-CM01-V1-25	V	10	100	50
06	Interpret weather and environmental conditions for outdoor recreation activities	TOU-14-CC01-V1-25	III	03	30	15
07	Administer oxygen in an emergency situation	TOU-14-CC02-V1-25	III	05	50	25
08	Perform advanced water rescues	TOU-14-CC03-V1-25	III	05	50	25
09	Develop swimming skills	TOU-14-CC04-V1-25	III	05	50	25
10	Operate and maintain water crafts for rescue operations	TOU-14-CC05-V1-25	III	06	60	30
11	Apply primary and secondary first-aid	TOU-14-CC06-V1-25	V	06	60	30
12	Ensure compliance with aquatic standards	TOU-14-CC07-V1-25	V	10	100	50
13	Manage incidents and investigate safety concerns	TOU-14-CC08-V1-25	V	10	100	50
14	Understand and implement staffing regulations	TOU-14-CC09-V1-25	V	12	120	60
15	Implement aquatic hiring requirements and training programs	TOU-14-CC10-V1-25	V	10	100	50
16	Apply free diving techniques	TOU-14-CC11-V1-25	V	08	80	40
17	Develop aquatic programs and services	TOU-14-CC12-V1-25	V	12	120	60
18	Prevent and manage aquatic emergencies	TOU-14-CC13-V1-25	V	08	80	40
Total				150	1500	750

**Packaging of National Qualifications:**

National Diploma in Lifeguarding will be awarded to those who are competent in units  
1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12+13+14+15+16+17+18

Qualification Code: TOU-14L5-V1-25

## COMPETENCY BASED ASSESSMENT

The final assessment of the National Competency-Based Programmes conducted by the Maldives National Skills Development Authority (MNSDA) is a competency-based assessment.

The Competency-Based Assessment ensures that the students' performance meets the requirements specified in the National Competency Standards (NCS). This assessment approach is designed to verify that graduates are job-ready and meet established occupational competency requirements within their respective fields.

### Eligibility for Final Assessment

To be eligible for the final Competency-Based Assessment, students must fulfil the following conditions:

- achieve a **minimum of 80%** attendance
- deemed competent in each of the units of the programme in the pre-assessment

### Competency-Based Assessment Process

Upon submission of the Pre-assessment report by the training provider, MNSDA will check for all the necessary supporting documents and conduct Competency-Based Assessment through a National Assessor registered with MNSDA. It is important to note that any trainer involved in the training process is **not permitted** to conduct the assessment to maintain impartiality and integrity of the process.

The final Competency-Based Assessment conducted by MNSDA includes both:

- **Theory:** Evaluating students' knowledge and understanding of key theoretical aspects of the competency.
- **Practical:** Assessing hands-on skills and application of knowledge in real-world or simulated environments.

Once the assessment is completed, the National Assessor will send the Competency-Based Assessment Report to MNSDA.

### Competency Status Requirement

For certification to be granted, the student must be officially declared "**Competent**" in each of the units of the programme by the National Assessor.

### Conclusion

Competency-Based Assessment is a critical component in ensuring the quality and credibility of technical and vocational skills-based training. By adhering to the outlined procedure, MNSDA upholds the standards required to certify students who are fully prepared to meet industry demands.