



Western Australia

ROOKIE LIFEGUARD REGISTRATION INFO



SOUTH WEST
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

222 RAILWAY TERRACE, MARGARET RIVER

18 - 22 JANUARY 2027



2027 ROOKIE LIFEGUARD PROGRAM

DATE: Monday 18 – Friday 22 January 2027

LOCATION: SLSWA South West Development Centre, Margaret River

COST: \$400

REGISTRATIONS: [Online](#)

ENQUIRIES: SLSWA Senior Operations Supervisor - email [Jason Nugent](#) or call 9207 6666

Transport from SLSWA to the South West Development Centre is provided for metro Clubs, with regional subsidy and pickup points available. Cost includes catering and accommodation for the 5-days.

The Rookie Lifeguard Program aims to:

- Provide a fun and engaging insight into SLSWA's Lifesaving Services, with attendees participating in a range of activities while developing skills and knowledge applicable to working in the industry.
- Provide a transition for members, aged 16-17, from being a volunteer patrol member to a paid Lifeguard
- Commence development of skill sets that are beneficial to employment as a Lifeguard
- Gain an understanding of the daily tasks and responsibilities of a Lifeguard
- Develop working relationships with SLSWA staff and Lifeguards
- Provide opportunities to work with like-minded people who share the same passion for beach safety and aquatic rescue
- Develop skills to respond to critical incidents in a Lifeguard setting; and
- Open doors to employment opportunities with SLSWA

Participation in the Rookie Lifeguard Program:

The Program provides a structured, 5-day camp where rookies will have the opportunity to develop and learn skills across key operational areas, including;

- Woodside Jet Ski Team
- Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter operations
- First aid and resuscitation
- Advanced rescue skills (e.g. rock rescues)
- Search & Rescue search patterns
- Leadership and teambuilding
- Equip participants with the Silver Medallion in Aquatic Rescue

Participant Prerequisites

To be eligible to enrol in the Lifeguard Academy’s Rookie Lifeguard Program, participants must:

- Be a financial member of an SLSWA Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC)
- Hold a current SLS Bronze Medallion
- Be 16 years of age by 1 January 2027
- Possess a suitable level of fitness

Rookie Immersion Week

Upon successful completion of the Program, Rookies will officially graduate, with a Silver Medallion in Aquatic Rescue. Plus, the 10 top graduates will be invited to participate in a week-long immersion program during the season within SLSWA’s Lifeguard services, which will see Rookies spend a week in on-the-job mentorship with SLSWA Lifeguards.

Regional Subsidy

To assist members from regional clubs attending the Rookie Lifeguard Program, special regional pickup locations and travel subsidies will be available.

Subsidies are financial assistance to get youth members to and from Surf Life Saving WA, 7 Delawney Street, Balcatta, 6021 or to the camp venue, 222 Railway Terrace, Margaret River, 6285.

Please note: Subsidies must be claimed via a club invoice sent to [Jason Nugent](#) no later than Sunday, 31 January 2027.

Transport & Car Subsidy

Region	Clubs	Subsidy per car to SLSWA (7 Delawney St, Balcatta)	Subsidy per car to the South West Development Centre (220 Railway Tce, Margaret River)
Mid-West	Dongara-Denison, Champion Bay, Geraldton	\$250 (inc. GST)	Not Available

Region	Clubs	Subsidy per car to SLSWA (7 Delawney St, Balcatta)	Subsidy per car to the South West Development Centre (220 Railway Tce, Margaret River)
Peel	Secret Harbour, Mandurah, Port Bouvard	Bus pick-up and drop-off at Mandurah SLSC	
South- west	Binningup, City of Bunbury, Dalyellup Beach	Bus pick-up and drop-off at City of Bunbury SLSC	
	Busselton, Smiths Beach, Margaret River	Go direct to the Development Centre	
Great Southern	Albany, Denmark	Not Available	\$175 (inc. GST)
	Esperance Goldfields	Not Available	\$350 (inc. GST)

Subsidy to Perth*

Club	Subsidy per person
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Broome & Dampier	\$500 (inc. GST)
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* This subsidy is available for each individual to get to Perth.