

## **Fact Sheet: Certs for Service**

### **What is Certs for Service?**

Certs for Service is a program that allows qualified candidates the opportunity to earn a lifeguard certification in exchange for only 6 Saturdays of volunteer service at a NORDC Outdoors program.

### **Why would I be interested?**

- Obtain a lifeguard certification, normally up to \$325, at no cost
- Exposure to job opportunities
- Resume-worthy civic duties and certifications
- Free NORDC Outdoors t-shirt
- Invitation to NORDC's annual Volunteer Appreciation Event
- \$500 tax deduction if you volunteer more than 30 hours in a calendar year
- Inclusion on one of the most fun volunteer teams in New Orleans!

### **What are the lifeguard course entry requirements?**

- Age 16 or older
- Ability to swim 300 yards continuously
- Ability to tread water for 2 minutes with no hands
- Ability to perform a timed task of swimming 15 yards, retrieving a 10lb brick from the bottom of the deep end, swimming back to the shallow end, and climbing out of the pool with the brick.

### **Are there any other requirements?**

You must be able to help facilitate and/or lifeguard canoeing and fishing on Saturdays from Aug. 12 to Nov. 11, 2017 at Joe W. Brown Park. Shifts are 4 hours, and you will need to be able to show up for 6 Saturdays. These events usually include children and adults, so you must be ready to bring a positive attitude for everyone and an eye for safety.

### **What if I don't know how to canoe? Or fish? Or Both?**

You will go through facilitation training and learn all you need to know about canoeing, fishing, and safely teaching other people how to do so in a relaxed environment. We do not expect you to be an expert – just willing to learn and teach.

### **Will this lead to a paid lifeguarding job?**

Certs for Service is designed to allow qualified people to test for a lifeguard certification at no cost in exchange for 24 volunteer hours with the NORDC Outdoors program. However, NORDC boasts a number of pools staffed by lifeguards. Earning your lifeguard certification and being a NORDC volunteer can easily turn into an employment opportunity, and has for many of our past volunteers.

### **How do I apply?**

Call the NORDC Outdoor Programs Manager at 504-658-3082 or email [NORDCOutdoors@nola.gov](mailto:NORDCOutdoors@nola.gov) for an application.

### **What happens after I apply?**

Your application will be reviewed and you may be contacted by the NORDC Outdoor Programs Manager for a telephone interview. There are limited spaces available for this program, so make sure to submit your application before the deadline!