

Transition pathway messaging for Red Cross award holders

Swim Transition: Canadian Red Cross to Lifesaving Society Canada

- The Canadian Red Cross is winding down its swim and lifeguarding programming to focus on surging humanitarian demands in other areas – such as disaster and pandemic response, opioid harm reduction and caregiving for seniors. [Read the press release.](#)
- During 2022, Red Cross is encouraging and supporting its current Water Safety Training Partners in making the transition to the swimming, lifeguarding and aquatic leadership programs of the Lifesaving Society Canada.

Both Societies are working to make this transition opportunity as smooth as possible.

Swim transition pathways for Red Cross-certified individuals

- The Lifesaving Society and Canadian Red Cross have created special pathways by which Red Cross certification holders transition to corresponding Lifesaving Society certifications. These pathways recognize and acknowledge the competencies earned in Red Cross certifications while providing the knowledge and resources critical for success as a Lifesaving Society instructor, lifeguard or trainer.

The opportunity to attain Lifesaving Society certifications via these transition pathways ends December 31, 2022. Thereafter, individuals would be required to follow all normal Lifesaving Society certification requirements and pay all applicable fees.

Expiry date extension

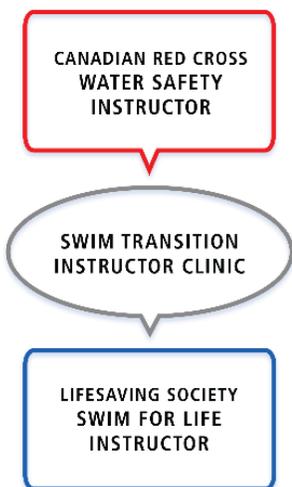
- To facilitate the transition, Red Cross has extended all Swimming & Water Safety and Lifeguard certifications to December 31, 2022 (if they would naturally expire before then).

Transfer of Red Cross certification data

- With your permission, Red Cross will transfer your certification information to the Lifesaving Society. If you do not grant permission for this transfer, you will need to contact your Lifesaving Society provincial/territorial Branch for direction on how to provide proof of certification.

Red Cross Water Safety Instructors > Swim for Life Instructor

- Canadian Red Cross Water Safety Instructors (who are a minimum 15 years of age) transition to Lifesaving Society Swim for Life Instructor certification by completing the Lifesaving Society Swim Transition Instructor clinic.



Swim Transition Instructor clinic: The self-guided, online clinic provides an orientation to the Society's Swim for Life program. The clinic will be available in English and in French at e-lifesaving.ca / e-sauvetage.ca. The clinic might also be offered in your province/territory in a synchronous online or in-person format.

The Lifesaving Society does not charge for the clinic and will waive the normal instructor certification fee. However, when you register you must purchase the Lifesaving Society's *Swim for Life Award Guide*. You need this reference to be successful on the clinic and while teaching the Swim for Life programs.

Upon completion of the clinic, the Lifesaving Society will issue your Swim for Life Instructor certification. When the time comes, follow your Lifesaving Society Branch procedures to recertify.

- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the Swim Transition instructor clinic in 2022, you would be required to follow all normal procedures for Swim for Life Instructor certification including earning prerequisites, successfully completing the full Lifesaving Society Swim for Life Instructor course, and paying all related costs and fees.

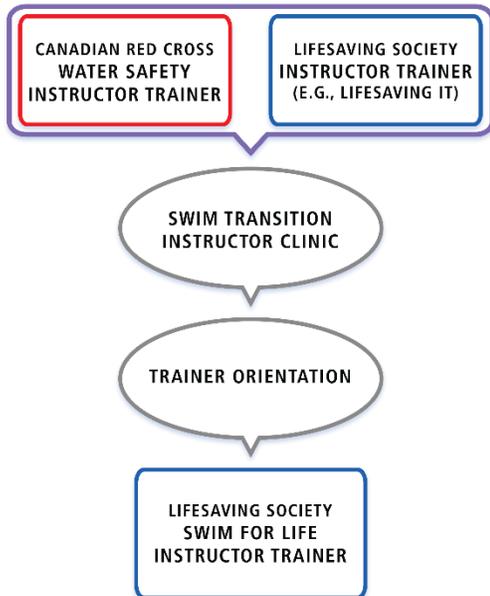
Red Cross WSI-candidates-in-progress > Red Cross Water Safety Instructor > Swim for Life Instructor



- Canadian Red Cross Water Safety Instructor-candidates complete the Red Cross process for WSI certification as soon as possible, and then complete the Swim Transition Instructor clinic procedure outlined (above) for WSIs.

- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not earn your WSI certification and complete the Swim Transition Instructor clinic in 2022, you would be required to follow all normal procedures for Swim for Life Instructor certification including earning prerequisites, successfully completing the full Lifesaving Society Swim for Life Instructor course, and paying all related costs and fees.

Red Cross WS Instructor Trainers who are Lifesaving Society Trainers > Swim for Life Instructor Trainer



- Canadian Red Cross Water Safety Instructor Trainers who also hold Lifesaving Society Trainer certification (in a stream other than Swim for Life) transition to Lifesaving Society Swim for Life Instructor Trainer certification by completing the Swim Transition Instructor clinic and then the Swim for Life Trainer Orientation module.

This transition pathway may also be followed by WSITs who have completed the Lifesaving Society Trainer course but who have yet to complete the process for Trainer certification.

Swim Transition Instructor clinic: The self-guided, online clinic provides an orientation to the Society's Swim for Life program. The clinic will be available in English and in French at e-lifesaving.ca / e-sauvetage.ca. The clinic might also be offered in your province/territory in a synchronous online or in-person format.

Swim for Life Trainer Orientation: The Trainer Orientation module focuses on the information needed to successfully plan and deliver the Lifesaving Society Swim for Life Instructor course. Contact the Lifesaving Society office in your province/territory for information on the process.

- The Lifesaving Society does not charge for the Swim Transition Instructor clinic or Trainer Orientation. The Society will waive the Trainer certification fee but you must purchase the relevant Swim for Life Instructor and Trainer resources.
- Upon completion of the Swim Transition Instructor clinic and the Trainer Orientation module, the Lifesaving Society will issue your Swim for Life Instructor Trainer certification. When the time comes, follow your Lifesaving Society Branch procedures to recertify.
- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the Swim Transition Instructor clinic and the Swim for Life Trainer Orientation in 2022, you would be required to successfully complete all normal Lifesaving Society procedures to earn Swim for Life Instructor Trainer status and pay the certification fee.

Red Cross WS Instructor Trainers > Swim for Life Instructor Trainer

- Canadian Red Cross Water Safety Instructor Trainers transition to Swim for Life Instructor Trainer certification by completing the Swim Transition Instructor clinic and then a Branch-coordinated Lifesaving Society Trainer course.

CANADIAN RED CROSS
WATER SAFETY
INSTRUCTOR TRAINER

SWIM TRANSITION
INSTRUCTOR CLINIC

TRAINER COURSE

LIFESAVING SOCIETY
SWIM FOR LIFE
INSTRUCTOR TRAINER

Swim Transition Instructor clinic: The self-guided, online clinic provides an orientation to the Society's Swim for Life program. The clinic will be available in English and in French at e-lifesaving.ca / e-sauvetage.ca. The clinic might also be offered in your province/territory in a synchronous online or in-person format.

Lifesaving Society Trainer course: The Trainer course introduces the principles and structure of the Lifesaving Society competency-based leadership system; and focuses on the curriculum knowledge, skill sets, techniques and resources needed to successfully plan and deliver a Lifesaving Society instructor course.

The Trainer course for WSITs will incorporate the Swim for Life Trainer Orientation module that focuses on the information needed to successfully plan and deliver the Lifesaving Society Swim for Life Instructor course. Contact the Lifesaving Society office in your province/territory for information on the process.

The Lifesaving Society does not charge for the Swim Transition Instructor clinic or for the Trainer Orientation module. The Society will waive the Trainer certification fee, but you must purchase the relevant Swim for Life Instructor and Trainer resources.

- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the Swim Transition Instructor clinic and the Lifesaving Society Trainer course in 2022, you would be required to successfully follow the normal Lifesaving Society procedures to earn Swim for Life Instructor Trainer status and pay the relevant certification fees.

Red Cross Assistant Lifeguards > Bronze Cross



- Canadian Red Cross Assistant Lifeguards transition to Lifesaving Society Bronze Cross assistant lifeguard status by successfully completing a Bronze Cross recertification exam.

The Lifesaving Society will waive the Bronze Cross certification fee. Fees charged by the Affiliate that hosts the recertification may apply.

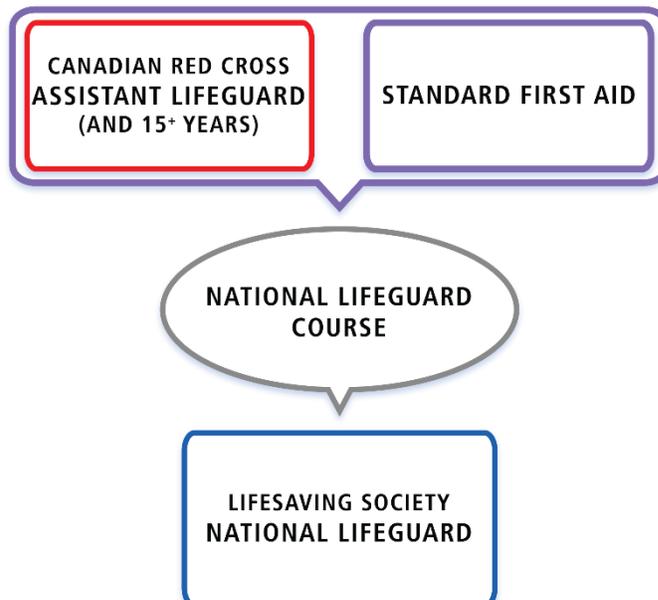
- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the Bronze Cross recertification in 2022, you would be required to follow the normal Lifesaving Society procedures to earn Bronze Cross including prerequisites, purchase of the related literature, and payment of relevant certification fees.

Red Cross Assistant Lifeguards > National Lifeguard

- Canadian Red Cross Assistant Lifeguards who hold Standard First Aid (and are a minimum 15 years of age) transition to Lifesaving Society National Lifeguard certification by successfully completing a National Lifeguard Pool or Waterfront course.

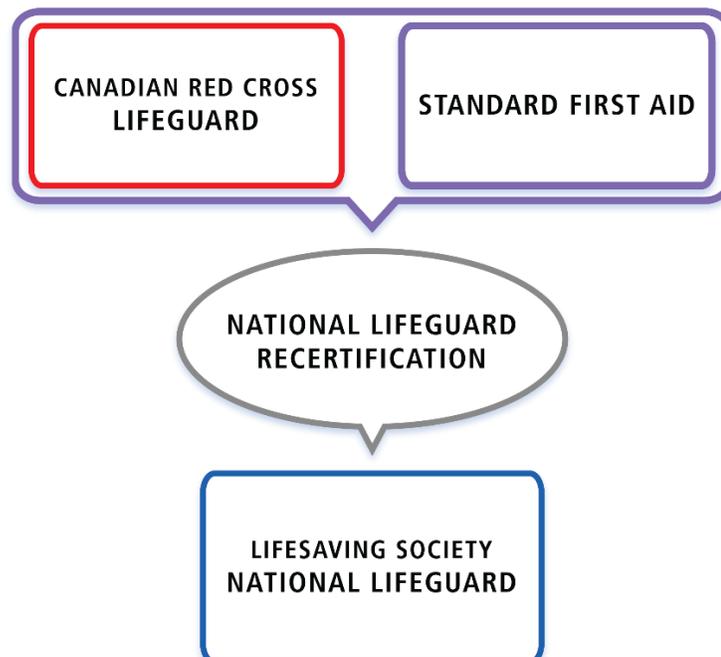
All normal course and certification fees and support literature costs apply.

- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the National Lifeguard course in 2022, you would be required to earn the National Lifeguard prerequisites (Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross), purchase the relevant literature, and pay all related course and certification fees.



Red Cross Lifeguards who hold Standard First Aid > National Lifeguard

- Canadian Red Cross Pool or Waterfront Lifeguards who hold Standard First Aid (and are a minimum of 15 years of age) transition to the corresponding National Lifeguard Pool or Waterfront certification by successfully completing a Branch-coordinated National Lifeguard Pool or Waterfront recertification.
- The Lifesaving Society will not charge for the recertification exam and will waive the normal recertification fee. Fees charged by the Affiliate that hosts the recertification may apply.
- Upon completion of the National Lifeguard recertification, the Lifesaving Society will issue your National Lifeguard certification. When the time comes, follow your Lifesaving Society Branch procedures to recertify.
- Contact the Lifesaving Society office in your province/territory for assistance and details.
- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the National Lifeguard recertification in 2022, you would be required to earn the National Lifeguard prerequisites (Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross), successfully complete the full National Lifeguard course, purchase the relevant literature, and pay all related course and certification fees.

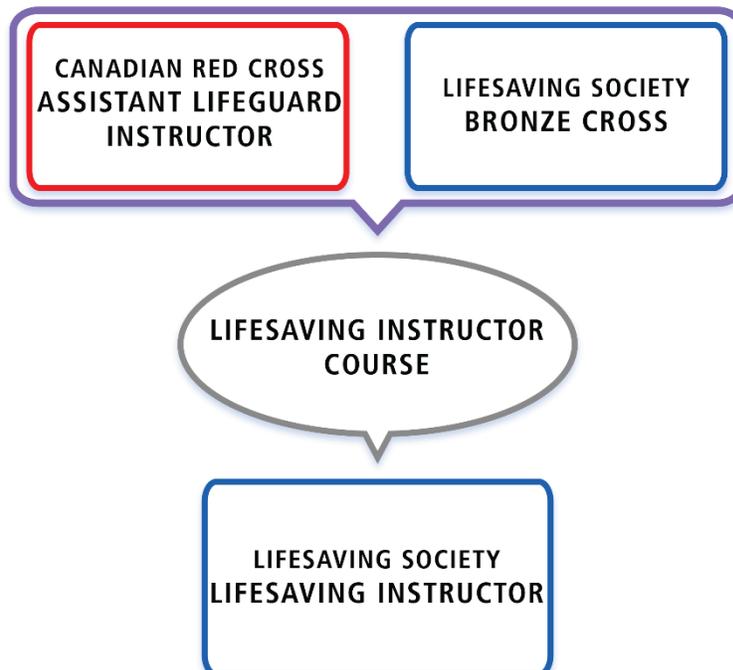


Red Cross Assistant Lifeguard Instructors who hold Bronze Cross > Lifesaving Instructor

- Canadian Red Cross Assistant Lifeguard Instructors who hold Bronze Cross (and who are a minimum 15 years of age) transition to Lifesaving Instructor certification by successfully completing a Branch-coordinated Lifesaving Instructor course.
- This course may be offered in an in-person or blended online format. In some provinces/territories, the course may be augmented with content that leads to Bronze Examiner certification.

Contact the Lifesaving Society office in your province/territory for assistance and details.

- The Society will waive the Lifesaving Instructor certification fee but you must purchase the applicable course resources. Fees charged by the Affiliate that hosts the Lifesaving Instructor course may apply.
- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the Lifesaving Instructor course 2022, you would be required to complete the course and pay certification fees.

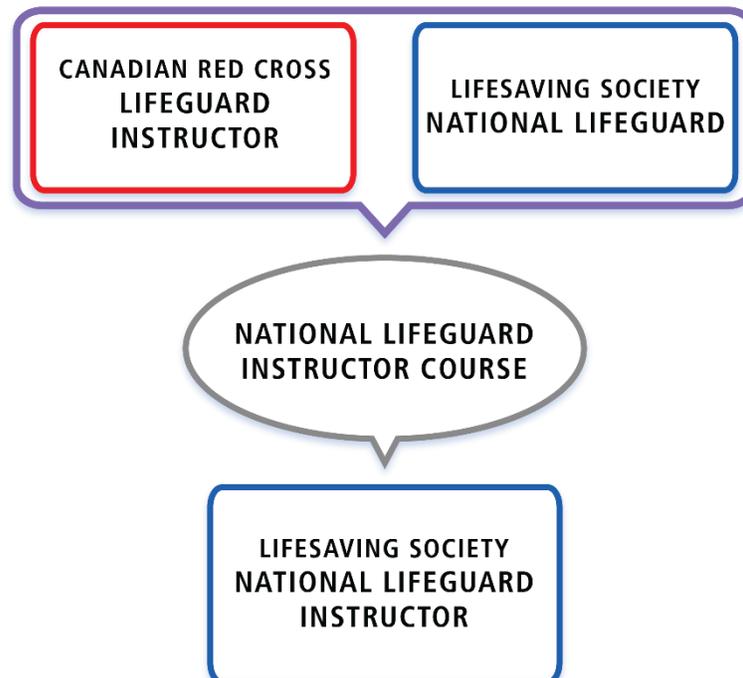


Red Cross Lifeguard Instructors who hold National Lifeguard > National Lifeguard Instructor

- Canadian Red Cross Lifeguard Instructors who hold National Lifeguard certification transition to National Lifeguard Instructor certification by successfully completing a Branch-coordinated National Lifeguard Instructor course.
- This course may be offered in person or in a blended online format. In some provinces/territories, the course may be augmented with content that leads to Lifesaving Instructor and Bronze Examiner certification.

Contact the Lifesaving Society office in your province/territory for assistance and details.

- The Society will waive the National Lifeguard Instructor certification fee but you must purchase the applicable resources. Fees charged by the Affiliate that hosts the National Lifeguard Instructor course may apply.
- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the National Lifeguard Instructor course 2022, you would be required to complete the course and pay all certification fees.

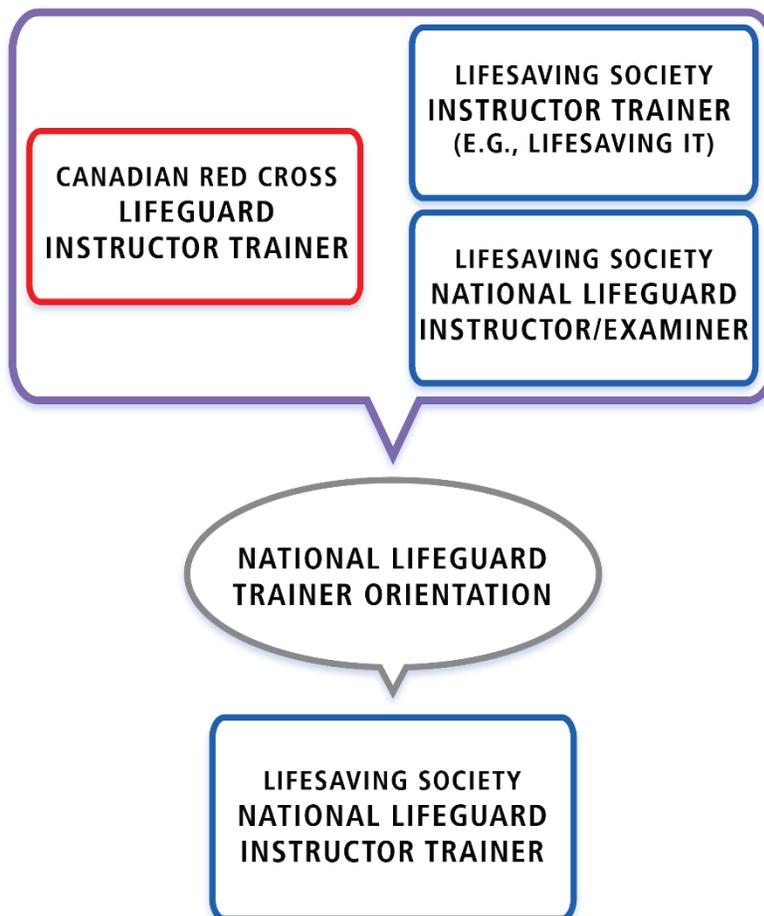


Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Trainers who hold Lifesaving Society Trainer, and National Lifeguard Instructor and Examiner certifications > National Lifeguard Instructor Trainer

- Canadian Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Trainers, who also hold Lifesaving Society Trainer certification (in a stream other than National Lifeguard) together with National Lifeguard Instructor and Examiner certifications, transition to National Lifeguard Instructor Trainer by completing the National Lifeguard Trainer Orientation process.

The Lifesaving Society does not charge for the National Lifeguard Trainer Orientation and will waive the Trainer certification fee, but you must purchase the relevant resources.

- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the National Lifeguard Trainer Orientation in 2022, you would be required to complete all normal requirements to earn National Lifeguard Instructor Trainer status and pay all certification fees.

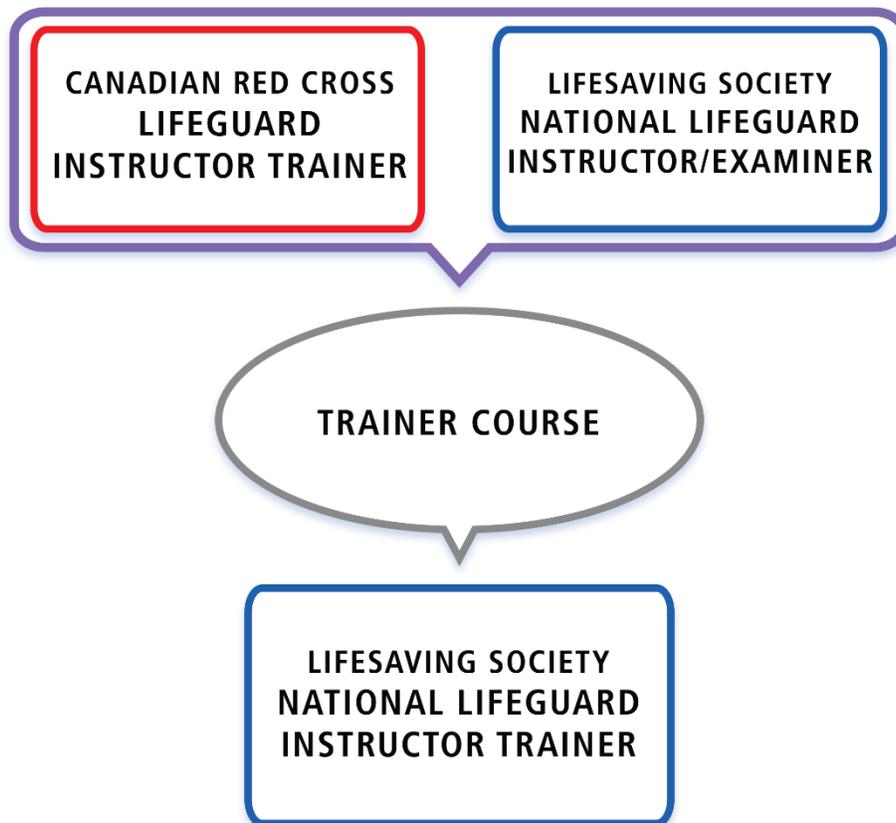


Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Trainers who hold National Lifeguard Instructor and Examiner certifications > National Lifeguard Instructor Trainer

- Canadian Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Trainers, who hold National Lifeguard Instructor and Examiner certifications, transition to National Lifeguard Instructor Trainer certification by successfully completing a Branch-coordinated Lifesaving Society Trainer course.

The Lifesaving Society will waive the National Lifeguard Trainer certification fee, but you must purchase the relevant resources.

- **This transition path ends December 31, 2022.** If you do not complete the Lifesaving Society Trainer course in 2022, you would be required to complete all normal requirements to earn National Lifeguard Instructor Trainer status and pay all certification fees.



Red Cross Master Instructor Trainers

- As a Canadian Red Cross volunteer appointment, there is no transition pathway for Master Instructor Trainers. Those interested are encouraged to contact the Canadian Red Cross and/or your Lifesaving Society Branch to explore volunteer opportunities.

Branch Contact Information

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