Career Readiness Indicator Questionnaire

This questionnaire is designed to help guide the process for review of a Career Readiness Indicator (CRI). It is the responsibility of the local education agency proposing the addition of the CRI to gather the information and submit it to Josh Laney, Assistant Director for Workforce Development. Answers should be as concise as possible. Information should be submitted as a completed packet, not piecemeal. Additional information may be included at the discretion of the applying agency if it might be pertinent to the evaluation process.

Contact information for person filling out questionnaire
Agency: Gulf Shores High School ; Dale Jernigan RN, MSN  Email: djernigan@bcbe.org  Phone number: 251-752-1229 (cell); 251-968-4747 (school)  Date of submittal: August 14, 2015

See Attached Answers

Why do we want this CRI?
1. What industry is asking for the CRI? (List multiple if applicable.)
2. What companies within the industry are requesting this CRI? (Attach letters of request on company letterhead.)
3. What entity, company, or testing agency is the “owner” of the CRI? (Who determines what it takes to earn the CRI?) Provide contact numbers, names, websites, or other info for inquiries.
4. For what career technical program(s) is the CRI being requested?

How does one actually get the CRI?
5. How long does it take for a student to earn this CRI? (Answer in approximate hours of instruction, not school years or terms. Give an average or best estimate.)
6. How does the student earn the CRI? (Does the student have to take a written exam, log a certain number of hours, complete a skills demonstration, some combination of these, etc?)
7. Is there a minimum age requirement for gaining the CRI?
8. Are students required to be graduates before earning the CRI?
9. Are there minimum pre-requisite course requirements for earning the CRI?
10. What equipment is required to train for this CRI? (Only list items which are different than what would be found on the standard equipment list for the program.)
11. Does the earning of the CRI require the student to have computer access for the testing?

How much does it cost and what resources are required?
12. What is the cost of the exam for earning this CRI?
13. Is there a practice test available from the CRI issuer or from other parties?
   a. If yes, does the practice test have a cost in addition to the actual exam and if so, how much?
   b. Can rights to the practice material be purchased once or is there a recurring fee?
14. Who can administer the exam? (Some CRIs prohibit the person who trained the student from administering the exam.)
15. Is special certification or licensure required for a teacher to administer the CRI?
   a. If yes, what is the cost for gaining the appropriate licensure?
   b. Is this a one-time or recurring fee?
16. Is site, facility, or equipment certification required for administering the CRI?

Rev: 7/27/15
a. If yes, what costs are included?
b. Is this a one-time or recurring fee

ANSWERS

1. Water Rescue program in the Orange Beach and Gulf Shores area who provide safety, rescue and rapid response for the Hospitality and Tourist industry.
2. Local Waterparks; Beaches; City of Gulf Shores: Aquatics Program and Bodenheimer Center
3. American Red Cross and American Lifeguard Association
4. Health Science Academy
5. Approximately 30 hours
6. Instruction, written tests, practical/timed swimming pre-test (to determine ability to perform rigorous water rescue skills); water-skill practice of required skills; water-skill demonstration of required water safety, and rescue skills. CPR and 1st Aid are prerequisites.
7. Age 15
8. No
9. No
10. Rescue Boards, water rescue equipment, spinal immobilization equipment
11. No
12. Approximately $150 per student
13. Yes there are practice tests. No, no additional costs. Only Red Cross or American Lifeguard Association Certified Instructors can teach this. It is provided through one of these two Organizations.
14. See above
15. Teachers may become lifeguard instructors. They must first receive lifeguard certification ($150), then receive instructor certification ($150). Many teachers will not do this due to the physical demands and rigor of water rescue.
16. No
March 9, 2015

To: Mrs. Collie M. Wells, Education Administrator
Career and Technical Education Section
Alabama Department of Education

From: Grant Brown, Director of Recreation
& Cultural Affairs, City of Gulf Shores

I am writing to request that The Red Cross Lifeguard Certification Course becomes a credential for students at Gulf Shores High School. As Recreation & Cultural Affairs Director for the City of Gulf Shores, I am aware of the need for trained, certified lifeguards on the Island. Between Gulf Shores and Orange Beach, we have numerous beaches, State Parks, pools and facilities that require lifeguards. Waterville, our main water park, is also in great need of certified lifeguards. Due to a shortage, we have provided city instructors to train students at the high school, if they can offer this course during school hours. Students undergo the non-water portion of the content and written tests at school, and then work at the pool and beach to obtain the water portion of the training. Upon completion, they have a Red Cross certification that is valid for two years.

Lifeguard certification is a very rigorous course, including surveillance, use of rescue equipment for a distressed swimmer, and emergency care of the active drowning victim, passive drowning victim and head, neck, or back injury. It is over 25 hours of coursework. In order to enroll, students must be at least 15 years old and pass prerequisite skills evaluation that includes the following:

1. Swim 300 yards continuously, using these strokes in the following order:
   - 100 yards of front crawl using rhythmic breathing and a stabilizing, propellant kick.
   - 100 yards breaststroke.
   - 100 yards of either front crawl using rhythmic breathing or breaststroke.

2. Tread water for 2 minutes using only the legs. You should place your hands under your armpits.

3. Complete a timed event within 1 minute, 40 seconds.
   - Starting in the water, swim 20 yards. Your face may be in or out of the water. Swim goggles are not allowed.
• Surface dive, feet-first or head-first, to a depth of 7 to 10 feet to retrieve a 10-pound object.
• Return to the surface and swim 20 yards on your back to return to the starting point with both hands holding the object while keeping your face at or near the surface so you are able to get a breath. You should not swim the distance under water. Exit the water without using a ladder or steps.

Once certified, these students will become eligible for immediate employment in numerous locations on the island. Please consider including this program certification in your state credential for career readiness. Due to our population and needs, this very much fits the profile of a CRI. Attached is an overview of the course content, and recent statistics.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Grant Brown
Mr. Laney,

Waterville USA is a family owned business located in Gulf Shores, AL for the past 29 years and counting. We employ approximately 85-90 lifeguards year in and year out. Locating and certifying this large number of lifeguards is a constant challenge. We feel that partnering with Gulf Shores High School and assisting with establishing the certified lifeguard as a career-ready credential, through the American Red Cross, would be a benefit to students, local businesses and the community as a whole. Aquatic safety is of the utmost importance in a beach town, tourist destination.

We feel that exposing our local students to a new and exciting field could generate a passion for the aquatic safety field. This would help the students see the possibilities this passion will open up for them. The possibilities include lifeguards or aquatic managers at local pools, resorts and water parks, EMTs, paramedics, fire fighters, and even the marine police. By fostering a desire to be safety oriented and the need to help others can even transition our students into the medical field which helps fill positions at local hospitals, doctors' offices, and urgent care centers. All of which benefit our community as a whole.

In closing, allowing the lifeguard certification to become a career-ready credential should be a given based on the numerous community benefiting possibilities and career opportunities for our students.

Warmest regards,

Clay Barnes
Asst. General Manager
Waterville USA
ANSWERS

1. Water Rescue program in the Chicago Area and Gulf Shore areas were provided Safety Training
2. and skills received for the Hospital and Towns Industry
3. Local Water Rescue Program in Gulf Shore Adventure Programs and Recreation Center
4. American Red Cross and American Lifeguard Association
5. Health Science Academy
6. Approximate 30 hours
7.
8. Certification will not be included in the swimming part of the program, but the skills will still be practiced. The program will still provide the same knowledge of rescue and recovery, and these skills are CPR and first aid procedures.

Age 10
9. No
10. No
11. No
12. Approximate 30 per student
13. Yes, there is a physical fitness test. It is a requirement for American Lifeguard Association Certification. It is not mandatory and must be passed for certification.
14. No. The course is not designed to provide certification in physical fitness and water rescue.
15. No