



California Surf Lifesaving Association

Southwest Region - United States Lifesaving Association

PO Box 366 - Huntington Beach, California 92648

2026-2027 California/New Zealand Lifeguard Exchange

Gustavo S. Avila
President

Casey T. Graham
Vice President

James A. Hughes
Secretary

Joseph A. Sholl
Treasurer

Michael A. Beuerlein
Past President/Advisor

Jay M. Butki
First Executive Delegate

Skipper J.C. Prosser
Second Executive Delegate

Sean J. Carey
Third Executive Delegate

Coral A. Kemp
Fourth Executive Delegate

TO: All current members of the California Surf Life Saving Association (CSLSA).

WHAT: The CSLSA has again been invited by the Auckland, New Zealand SLSA representatives to participate in a lifeguard exchange program. This is the 57th year this exchange has taken place between Auckland/Northern Region and California. Delegates will tour various beaches observing and participating in lifesaving practices and procedures. This program is designed to enrich lifesaving knowledge and perpetuate international lifesaving camaraderie.

WHEN: Late December, 2026 through Mid-February, 2027 (approximate dates; actual dates decided by you and partner)

RESPONSIBILITY: The two CSLSA members will be responsible for their own food and transportation costs to and from Auckland, New Zealand. Surf Lifesaving Northern Region will provide accommodations throughout the exchange. The CSLSA will sponsor a portion of the airfare to New Zealand and provide a stipend upon delivering a report to the Board of Directors (upon satisfactorily completing the tour).

HOW TO APPLY:

1. Applicant must have a minimum of three summers of open water lifeguard experience and three years membership in the United States Lifesaving Association (USLA);
2. Applicant must presently be a member of the CSLSA in good standing;
3. Applicant must provide resume and cover page including name, mailing address, contact phone number, e-mail address, and agency.
4. Must have two (2) letters of recommendation. One from each of the following: A. Your Chief Lifeguard, Captain, or Lieutenant B. Your CSLSA Chapter President or other Executive Officer.
5. Must complete an oral interview with final approval given by the CSLSA Executive Board

6. Applicants from USLA certified agencies are highly desirable.

E-MAIL TO: E-mail your completed application with all documents to:
exchanges@cslsa.org

DEADLINE: All materials MUST be e-mailed and time-stamped by Friday, September 4th, 2026 at 11:59pm. **LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**



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INTERVIEW: Interviews will likely be held the following week of September 7th in Huntington Beach or via online/Skype interviews. Interview results will be announced by the following week.

INFORMATION: Due to the ongoing fluidity of the Covid pandemic, this Exchange is subject to cancelation based on the health department orders from both countries. FULL VACCINATION is required to participate in this exchange. Please access the following link to read the vaccination requirements to travel to New Zealand.

<https://covid19.govt.nz/internationaltravel/travel-to-new-zealand/vaccination-requirements-for-travel-to-newzealand/#approved-vaccines-for-entry-to-new-zealand>

CONTACT: Vianne Kelly and Casey Graham via email at exchanges@cslsa.org with any questions.