



Lauren DeSantis

I never really thought about becoming a lifeguard at first, I didn't even know there was a training program for it. Usually I see most lifeguards at beaches, but we usually didn't go to beaches with waves, so I didn't understand why people would need saving. But then I went to Jones Beach and Davis Park and saw lifeguards stationed at different sections, but there were about fifty people in each section and with people going into the rough waves. It looked hard to save someone with the possible risk of being seriously injured, so in my mind one thing for sure, I was NOT being a lifeguard. I also watched movies that involved lifeguards and the ocean which really made me know for certain I was definitely not becoming a lifeguard.

Then, my mom told me about the Jones Beach Junior Lifeguard program. I still had the doubts about becoming a lifeguard, but I would not want people to get hurt in the water so I decided to give it a shot. The day of the tryouts was suspenseful, but the night of the next Tuesday we got the news that I made it to the program. I arrived at the beach a little late, so parking was a little hard. I learned so much since the first day and I can't wait for more. And I re-thought and decided to become a lifeguard when I grow up.

I want to be a lifeguard when I grow up because I am concerned about other's safety. It also means that I'll be able to spend all day at the beach. I like to observe and watch what others are doing, and if I become a lifeguard, I'll be able to see what everyone is doing. I also love being in the water because I would have to swim out to save people, and swimming is one of my biggest passions. Besides, the ocean doesn't seem so scary now. I want to reach out to other people and help others. This is my story of my first year as a Junior Lifeguard, and it was great to share it with you.