Swim Instructor Foundations with Suzi

A tuition-based training and mentorship program fits your latest idea better than a “paid internship.” Participants would pay you for instruction, observation and feedback. They would not be required to clean the pool, build decks, remove the shed, repair the fence or run errands.

Prepared by Manus AI • November 1, 2026

What students would purchase

The proposed offer is practical instruction in how you approach teaching swimming: assessing a learner’s starting point, choosing a manageable skill, explaining it clearly, observing the response and adapting the next step. Your personal experience and feedback are the product—not access to a job or an official credential.

Use the name **Swim Instructor Foundations with Suzi**. Describe it as private, tuition-based mentorship. “Paid internship” commonly suggests that an employer pays a person to work, which is not the arrangement you now want.

Keep the public website at an inquiry stage until the course hours, price, admission rules and schedule are defined. Do not collect course payments before people can see what they are purchasing and the cancellation terms.

A proposed four-part learning structure

Observe and understand. Introduce professional boundaries, lesson flow, swimmer readiness and your approach to water confidence. Observe live lessons only with appropriate family permission; otherwise use demonstrations and hypothetical cases.

Plan and explain. Teach participants to prepare a short lesson outline, choose a focused objective and give clear instructions. Practice explaining a skill without promising that every swimmer will progress at the same speed.

Practice and adapt. Use supervised practice with suitable peers or demonstrations to work on teaching cues and feedback. Discuss supporting nervous learners and adapting instruction to individual needs without presenting the mentorship as medical or therapy training.

Reflect and prepare for next steps. Review a sample lesson plan and a supervised teaching demonstration. Provide constructive written feedback and identify areas for more practice. Explain that local swim schools may require their own training, recognized credentials, CPR/first-aid qualifications and other hiring checks.

Set the duration and tuition around the actual instruction and preparation you will provide. A sample structure is not a promise of mastery after four meetings.

What completion would mean

You could give students a truthful completion record naming your private program, the training hours actually attended and the topics covered. Do not call it American Red Cross certification or school credit unless the proper organization has authorized that outcome.

The Red Cross has separate Basic Swim Instructor and Water Safety Instructor certification courses. Being a Water Safety Instructor yourself is not, by itself, evidence that this private mentorship awards those credentials. If you want to offer a recognized certification pathway, verify the required trainer authorization or arrange an approved partnership. [1]

The goal can be preparation for pursuing swim-school work. Do not promise that a school will hire the participant or that finishing your program qualifies them for every teaching role.

Keep learning separate from staffing

Participants should receive the training they pay for. Do not use them as replacements for paid staff or assign unrelated work as a condition of mentorship.

If you later introduce actual work placements or assistant shifts, evaluate that arrangement separately. The Department of Labor looks at the real circumstances of a student’ s work at a for-profit business, including whether the education benefits the student and whether the work displaces paid employees. Calling something a course or charging tuition does not, on its own, decide whether an employment relationship exists. [2]

Construction, shed demolition, chemicals and driving errands do not belong in this program. Florida has specific youth-employment restrictions covering hazardous activities, demolition, woodworking equipment, toxic chemicals and work-related driving. Those matter if you later employ minors; they are not a reason to assign those jobs to paying students. [3]

For your proposed program, use age, swimming ability, training and appropriate permissions to determine participation—not gender.

Before enrolling older teens

Set an appropriate age range and swimming-skill entry standard. Obtain parent or guardian consent for anyone under 18. Review insurance coverage, safeguarding procedures, observation permissions, emergency arrangements, tuition terms and any applicable business or training requirements before opening enrollment.

Keep all contact with child swim clients and their families within your approved business procedures. Students should not take private client details, photograph children without permission, independently supervise swimmers or be assigned pool-safety responsibility.

Do not claim a school relationship or academic credit simply because a participant is in high school or college. A school-sponsored placement requires the school’ s agreement and a clearly defined arrangement.

Keep the lesson-trade offer separate

You can separately invite qualified adult service providers to propose trades for shed removal, gazebo construction, deck work, landscaping and fence repairs. Agree on scope, materials, value, the lesson credit and any necessary qualifications or permits before work begins. Do not describe these trades as student training duties.

Your reported fence deterioration needs attention separately from marketing. If the fence is no longer an effective pool barrier, restrict access and pause pool use until the barrier is made safe. Repairs around an active pool should not expose swimmers or students to construction hazards.

Decisions still needed

Before opening the mentorship for payment, define the intended age range, entry skills, exact instructional hours, what students receive, tuition, dates, class size, observation arrangements and cancellation policy. The accompanying Airo text presents it as a program in development, with an inquiry button rather than an invented price or checkout.

Your eight-visit practice-swim package is confirmed active. The website can retain the $150–$175 range with a text-to-confirm action and links to your existing Venmo and PayPal accounts without preset amounts. Fixed-amount buttons still need your explanation of which price applies to which customer.

No website was changed, no enrollment or payment was accepted, and no employment or school agreement was submitted during this work.

References

[1] American Red Cross swim instructor certification pathway

[2] U.S. Department of Labor guidance on interns and students at for-profit employers

[3] Florida official child-labor guidance