

INSTRUCTOR

MANUAL



PADI® *Instructor Manual*

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Scuba diving can never be entirely risk-free. However, by adhering to the standards within this manual whenever training or supervising divers who participate in PADI courses and programs, PADI Members can provide a strong platform from which divers and novices can learn to manage those risks and have fun in the process.

How to Use This Manual

This manual provides PADI course requirements. Text appearing in **boldface** print denotes required standards that may not be deviated from while teaching the course. PADI Standards do not, however, supersede local laws or regulations. Keep informed of these wherever you teach.

Though all PADI Members use this manual, it is written from the instructor's perspective, except for course performance requirements. These are written from the student diver's or program participant's perspective, stating specifically what must be demonstrated or performed.

As a starting point, become familiar with the items in the Commitment to Excellence section. This includes the PADI Professional's Creed, PADI Member Code of Practice and Youth Leader's Commitment. This section outlines your professional commitment to diver safety, responsibility and risk management. *Read it first and read it often.*

Next, go to General Standards and Procedures, and then look to the individual guide for specific standards regarding the course you are teaching. The following outlines what's in the PADI *Instructor Manual* and how you can effectively find information in it.

General Standards and Procedures

Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to all PADI courses and programs, except as noted otherwise in the individual course guide. You must first comprehend what's in the General

Standards and Procedures Guide, because these standards are not repeated in the individual course guides.

Read this first! The most important thing about the General Standards and Procedures Guide is that it provides an overall set of standards for **all** PADI courses and programs. If the individual guide for a course or program doesn't specify a standard, the standard in General Standards and Procedures applies. There are two sections in this guide:

- **Training Standards** — This is a listing of definitions used and key concepts that apply throughout the manual. Here you'll find general information about supervision, materials and equipment requirements, accepting divers from other organizations into PADI courses, etc.
- **Paperwork and Administrative Procedures** — This is a listing of general information an instructor needs to know regarding the administration of PADI courses and programs. Examples of content: documentation needs, certification/registration procedures, assessing diver knowledge, Quality Management and incident report filing, and how PADI courses link together.

Individual Course/Program Guides

Next you'll find the various nonprofessional level course/program standards in individual guides, as well as the standards for PADI Divemaster training, in a consistent format:

- **Section One, Course/Program Standards** — The overall standards for the specific course. Follow General Standards, and then pay attention to any differences from General Standards noted in the specific guide.
- **Section Two, Knowledge Development** — Standards pertaining to the knowledge development segment of training. Generally, divers develop knowledge through independent study with student educational materials. If you deliver knowledge development presentations, use

the prescriptive lesson guides and teaching outlines for the course, obtainable from your PADI Regional Headquarters.

- **Section Three, Confined Water Dives** — Standards pertaining to confined water training. Some courses don't require confined water training, though you can include it for practice and to give divers a simulation of what will occur in open water.
- **Section Four, Open Water Dives** — Performance requirements for each open water dive, and any related standards pertaining to open water training.

Professional Membership

This guide covers PADI Membership status and ratings:

- **Membership Status** — Explanation of each category of membership status
- **Professional Ratings** — Prerequisites for PADI, TecRec® and EFR® professional levels.

Keep in mind that this manual covers general standards and only the course or program standards for core courses and programs. You'll find specific standards for PADI Specialty Diver, TecRec, Freediver, Mermaid, Public Safety Diver and EFR courses in the instructor guides for those programs.

See PADI's *Guide to Teaching* for information on recommended training techniques, tips for course setup and training, useful background on course philosophy and other important recommendations.

You can find Knowledge Review answer keys, as well as exam answer keys and any forms or documentation related to PADI courses on the Pros' Site at padi.com.

IMPORTANT — Please Read:

Instructor Judgment

Because PADI Standards define learning and performance requirements for courses or programs conducted anywhere in the world, they must fit a large variety of teaching circumstances.

- **Maximum limits** — Standards for ratios and depths are listed as maximum limits. This means that you must apply sound judgment in determining what is appropriate for training each time you conduct a course or program. It's your professional responsibility to conduct a risk assessment by evaluating variables such as water conditions – temperature, visibility and water movement – entries/exits, the individual abilities of each of your student divers, the number of certified assistants available, your abilities and limitations, etc., to determine what ratio will fit the situation; reducing the ratio from the maximum, if needed. Conduct this risk assessment before the dive, and continue to assess and evaluate during the dive taking into account changing variables.
- **Minimum requirements** — Conversely, standards such as course prerequisites – logged dives, age, instructor rating requirements – are all listed as minimums. For example, when the age prerequisite is 10 years old, this is the absolute youngest age you may accept. You must apply prudent judgment to determine whether or not a particular 10-year-old is ready for the course or program.

Your PADI professional training and experience, plus the PADI resources – such as the various PADI manuals, references, *Training Bulletins*, *Training News*, *The Undersea Journal*®, padi.com/Pros' Site and the Training Department at your PADI Regional Headquarters – are available to help you stay up-to-date and make sound judgments when you have a question. Think of this manual as your quick reference to PADI Standards. Use it in context with these other resources to make the dive

experience the best it can be for both you and those who take your PADI courses and programs.

Reference padi.com and PADI's *Guide to Teaching* for information on PADI's Mission Statement, Tasks, Purposes and Goals, PADI Worldwide Group and Affiliates, and a complete list of PADI Educational Programs.

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COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

SECTION



PADI Professional's Creed

As a PADI Professional I have the opportunity to see:

- Fear changed to courage
- Faintheartedness converted into accomplishment
- Timidity transformed into confidence
- Anticipation turned into passion

As a PADI Professional I can:

- Open hearts and minds to the hidden beauty of nature's creation and our obligation to protect it
- Foster self-esteem in another person
- Teach the value of character and integrity
- Transform another human being and change a life for the better and forever

**"From what we get we make a living.
From what we give we make a life."**

– Winston Churchill

PADI Member

Code of Practice

As a PADI Professional, you enjoy a rewarding role – teaching and introducing others to scuba diving. You have the chance to change lives for the better and to experience things most humans will never have the opportunity to enjoy. With this ability comes a very important obligation to your students, clients and all those who come to you to be taught or led underwater: You are responsible for the safety of others.

As a PADI Member, you agree to the following:

- 1. Put the safety of diving clients and students as your first priority and responsibility. In doing so, abide by the requirements and intent of PADI Standards and Procedures in the PADI *Instructor Manual*, PADI's *Guide to Teaching*, *Training Bulletin*, *Training News* and other updates while applying your best judgment during the PADI courses and programs you conduct.**
- 2. Although scuba diving is a reasonably safe activity when safety rules are followed, the risk/consequence of scuba diving can lead to very serious injuries. Be safety minded, safety conscious, and practice instructing and dive mastering professionally.**
- 3. Perform a personal readiness self-assessment before you teach or lead others on dives. This includes evaluating your physical health and fitness for diving as well as your ability to supervise and respond to diver emergencies on that day and at that location.**
 - a. Personal ability — There is a wide range of physical ability and fitness among dive professionals. Recognize your personal ability and limitations as it applies to leading and supervising divers, including your ability to respond to a diver**

emergency. Personal ability can change over time. **Evaluate your practices and accommodate, if needed, for loss of strength, stamina, hearing, sight, etc. Think through the dive plan and emergency action plan as it applies to any personal limitations, taking conservative measures such as using certified assistants, diving in favorable conditions and reducing ratios as needed to reduce risk to those you supervise, and to yourself.**

- b. Dive site — **Evaluate the dive conditions and environment and determine if you're ready and familiar enough with it to teach or lead dives there.**
 - c. Knowledge — **Assess your knowledge readiness to teach or lead divers on any given day – to make sure that you are familiar with the standards, latest updates and teaching tools for that PADI program; and that you're aware of the readiness and abilities of your student divers.**
 - d. Confidence — Though fully qualified to take on your professional role as a new PADI Divemaster, Assistant Instructor or Instructor, you can further develop leadership skills and confidence by seeking mentorship from, by team-teaching with or shadowing experienced PADI professionals. **Make appropriately conservative judgment calls as a newly-certified professional.** After a period of leadership inactivity, this same practice can help assure your leadership skills and confidence.
- 4. When teaching, repetition is important for mastery and long term skill retention. Mastering basic skills and breath control in a variety of conditions takes time and practice. Help those you teach and supervise by guiding them through this learning process.**

5. Each person has an individual state of mind and comfort level that may be very different from yours, and may vary greatly between divers in a group. Be willing to cancel a dive for the group or an individual at any time to err on the side of safety.
6. Be watchful for signs of diver stress and anxiety, and act quickly and appropriately when you see them.
7. Employ effective group control measures in the water, particularly when supervising novices and children. Carry out frequent head counts.
8. Conduct yourself and your PADI-related activities in a professional manner.
9. Represent yourself as a PADI Instructor only when you are in Teaching Status. Only teach courses that you are authorized to teach after receiving notification from your PADI Office. For example, you must be a PADI Specialty Instructor for a particular specialty course before teaching that course.
10. Comply with the intent of the PADI Standard Safe Diving Practices Statement of Understanding while teaching and supervising.
11. Treat student divers and all those involved in dive activities with respect, regardless of age, ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation, disability or sexual orientation.
12. Do not disparage the PADI organization, PADI Members or any other dive industry professionals.
13. Exhibit common honesty in your PADI-related activities.
14. Cooperate during PADI investigations by responding fully and promptly to inquiries.
15. Respect and reinforce the depth and supervisory restrictions as displayed on restricted PADI certification cards, such as PADI Scuba Diver and Junior Diver.

- 16. Follow a strict code of conduct and abide by the requirements and intent of the PADI Member Youth Leader's Commitment whenever teaching or supervising children.**
- 17. Follow a professional code of practice toward the environment and abide by the practices and intent of AWARE's 10 Tips to Save the Ocean in all PADI-related activities. (See padiaware.org.)**
- 18. Accept that a criminal conviction involving abuse of a minor either during or prior to PADI Membership is grounds for denial or termination of PADI Membership.**
- 19. Accept that a criminal conviction involving sexual abuse of an adult either during or prior to PADI Membership is grounds for denial or termination of PADI Membership.**
- 20. Not substitute other courses and programs for PADI, TecRec® and EFR programs advertised.**
- 21. Do not take uncertified divers using scuba into confined open water or open water except when conducting sanctioned introductory scuba programs or entry-level diver certification courses that meet ISO requirements.**

If you breach the Code of Practice, your PADI Membership is at risk.

Youth Leader's Commitment

1. Look after the child's health, safety and welfare.
2. Ensure appropriate supervision during all instructional activities.
3. Whenever possible, meet the child's parents or guardians and share program goals and objectives.
4. Strive to keep parents or guardians involved and informed through verbal reports and updates as often as possible.
5. Treat children, parents or guardians with respect regardless of age, race, gender and religious affiliation.
6. Honor commitments made to children.
7. Discuss disciplinary problems with parents or guardians.
8. Do not engage in inappropriate contact with children.
9. Respect a child's rights to privacy and intrude only when health and safety demand.
10. Whenever possible, ensure two adults are with children.

GENERAL STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES



Training Standards

The following definitions, descriptions and requirements apply to and are used throughout this manual.

Altitude Dive

An altitude dive is conducted at a dive site located from 300 to 3000 metres/1000 to 10,000 feet above sea level.

Ascent Rate

Maximum ascent rate is 18 metres/60 feet per minute, or the maximum rate allowed by the diver's computer, whichever is slower. Dives at altitude (higher than 300 metres/1000 feet) and/or in a dry suit have a maximum ascent rate of 9 metres/30 feet per minute. A safety stop of 3 minutes at 5 metres/15 feet is recommended for all dives.

Assessing Open Water Dive Readiness

For Continuing Education Courses and Open Water Diver Referrals

In preparation for the dive and before beginning open water dive skills, assess the diver's skills and comfort level inwater and generally assess dive knowledge. This assessment should include the use of specialized equipment (such as dry suits, full face masks, etc.) that the diver is already qualified to use and will use during the program. If the diver exhibits lack of dive readiness, remediate before training progresses.

Recent dive experience with the diver is acceptable as a screen if you are confident in the diver's current knowledge level, inwater skills and comfort.

Assistant Instructor

An Assistant Instructor is a Teaching Status PADI Assistant Instructor.

Certified Assistant

A certified assistant is a Teaching Status PADI Instructor, PADI Assistant Instructor or Active Status PADI Divemaster.

Confined Water Dives

Confined water is a general term that refers to either a swimming pool or confined open water.

Confined open water is an open water site that offers swimming pool-like conditions with respect to clarity, calmness and depth. It has both shallow water and water sufficiently deep to allow student divers to meet all skill performance requirements.

Evaluate confined open water conditions carefully before each dive because a site may qualify as “pool-like” on a given day under certain conditions, but not qualify under others.

When confined water logistics aren't ideal and the depth is too shallow to conduct all skills, introduce skills requiring water too deep in which to stand, in sequence, in shallow water. Then, when you have access to confined water deep enough to meet skill performance requirements, repeat the deep-water skills, in sequence, before the associated open water dive.

Requirements

Do not combine confined open water dives with open water dives. After a confined open water dive, have divers leave the water and remove equipment before beginning open water dives.

Exception: Discover Scuba® Diving participants and PADI Scuba Diver/Open Water Diver students may progress directly from Confined Water Dive 1 to Open Water Dive 1 without exiting the water.

Deep Dive

A deep dive is conducted at a depth between 18 to 30 metres/ 60 to 100 feet.

Exceptions: Some courses such as Deep Diver and TecRec courses allow for greater depths.

Disabilities

Disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that impedes typical achievement. Although meeting skill performance requirements may be challenging, you may suggest adaptive techniques and make reasonable accommodations to assist individuals with disabilities to learn dive skills and theory.

Allow people with disabilities to:

- 1. Participate in scuba training activities after they obtain approval from a licensed physician.**
- 2. Receive certification after fulfilling all performance requirements for the particular certification level.**
- 3. Continue to participate in diver training activities if unable to fulfill the certification performance requirements, provided they are otherwise qualified to participate.**

Leadership-Level

Before enrollment and the course begins:

- 1. Inform divers who have disabilities that may affect their ability to supervise or communicate that they may have post-certification stipulations depending on individual circumstances.**
- 2. Contact the PADI Training Department and receive written confirmation of any additional requirements.**

Divemaster

A Divemaster is an Active Status PADI Divemaster.

Dry Suit Use in PADI Programs

To use a dry suit during any PADI course or program, a student diver/participant must meet one of the following:

- **Be enrolled in a PADI Dry Suit Diver specialty course**
- **Have a PADI Dry Suit Diver certification (or qualifying certification from another training organization)**
- **Provide proof of at least four dives in a dry suit in conditions comparable to those to be used in training.**
- **With a PADI Dry Suit Specialty Instructor, complete the Dry Suit Orientation and Dry Suit Adventure Dive* prior to the course/program.** (See the Dry Suit Adventure Dive requirements in the Advanced Open Water Diver Course Instructor Guide.) **When fulfilling this option, during all course/program dives:**
 - **Divers must be under the direct supervision of a PADI Dry Suit Specialty Instructor or a certified assistant. The maximum diver-to-certified assistant ratio is 2:1.**
 - **Maximum dive depth is 30 metres/100 feet.**
 - **On dives deeper than 18 metres/60 feet, divers must be directly supervised by a PADI Dry Suit Specialty Instructor at a maximum ratio of 4:1.**

Note: Divers may need to repeat this option for subsequent courses/programs until they meet one of the other options.

***Exception:** Open Water Diver course students do not complete the Dry Suit Adventure Dive. See Open Water Diver Course Instructor Guide, Equipment for dry suit use options.

Exception: Pool or confined water experiences when trying or learning how to use a dry suit while directly supervised by a PADI Dry Suit Specialty Instructor.

Dry Suit Orientation

By the end of the confined water orientation, student divers must be able to:

- **Put on and remove a dry suit with the aid of another diver if necessary for that model dry suit.**

- **Demonstrate how to conduct a buoyancy check at the surface while wearing a dry suit with undergarments (when needed) and full scuba equipment.**
- **Demonstrate neutral buoyancy by gently rising and falling in a controlled manner during inhalation and exhalation for one minute.**
- **Demonstrate neutral buoyancy by hovering (without kicking or sculling) near the bottom for one minute.**
- **Disconnect and reconnect the low-pressure hose from the dry suit inflator valve while underwater.**
- **Perform a neutrally buoyant ascent from the bottom, at a rate no faster than 9 metres/30 feet per minute.**
- **Demonstrate one technique for recovering from excess gas in the feet.**
- **Remove and replace both the scuba unit and weight system while on the surface.**

eLearning®

PADI eLearning® is an online learning tool available for many PADI courses and programs. Divers who complete a PADI eLearning program have met all or most of the knowledge development requirements for the program, and may be required to take a quick review with an instructor. eRecords verify requirements met and expire within one year of the last knowledge development section completed. Student divers retain access to eLearning and can review/repeat sections.

Children age 13 and younger must have parental/guardian consent to enroll in and pay for eLearning courseware.

Equipment

Standard Diver Equipment

Make sure divers have, at a minimum:

Note: See Rebreather Use and Sidemount Use

1. Fins, mask and snorkel
 2. Compressed gas cylinder and valve
 3. Buoyancy control device (BCD) with cylinder mount or separate backpack, or harness configured for sidemount diving, and low-pressure inflator
 4. Primary regulator and alternate air source
 5. Breathing gas monitoring device (e.g. submersible pressure gauge)
 6. Depth monitoring device
 7. Quick-release weight system and weights (if necessary for neutral buoyancy, or if required for skills practice)
 8. Adequate exposure protection appropriate for local dive conditions.
 - a. Dry suits must have a dedicated low-pressure inflator hose from the regulator, or an inflation system specifically for the dry suit.
- Note:** See Dry Suit Use in PADI Programs in this guide.
9. At least one audible emergency surface signaling device (whistle, air horn, etc.).
 10. Dive computer or RDP (eRDP^{ML}™ or Table)

Note: If dives are planned using the RDP, the student diver must have a timing device.

Familiarize divers with the equipment they use in the course.

Rebreather Use

- **Student divers and qualified instructors must use registered rebreathers during PADI Rebreather, Advanced Rebreather and Tec CCR courses.** See related instructor guides for requirements.
- PADI Rebreather Divers may use rebreathers on which they are qualified during courses provided that all dive performance requirements can be met.

- **Maximum depth is the depth for which divers are qualified with the rebreather or maximum course depth, whichever is shallower.**
- **Do not use rebreathers (neither staff nor students) during PADI Discover Scuba Diving programs, PADI Scuba Diver, Open Water Diver or Instructor Development Courses.**
- Instructors and certified assistants with rebreather qualifications and experience (30 hours and dives for Type R; 50 hours and dives for Type T) may use registered rebreathers on dives where indirect supervision is allowed.
- **Do not use rebreathers when direct supervision is required,** unless you are a PADI Rebreather and/or Tec CCR Instructor on the specific unit you're using and have conducted a risk assessment to decide whether it's appropriate to use a rebreather.

Sidemount Use

- **Student divers and qualified instructors must use sidemount configuration during the Sidemount Adventure Dive, PADI Sidemount and Tec Sidemount courses.** See related instructor guides for requirements.

Note: PADI Sidemount Diver course may be taught concurrently with the PADI Open Water Diver course – see Linking Courses.

- PADI Sidemount Divers may use sidemount configuration during courses provided that all dive performance requirements can be met.

Standard Instructor and Certified Assistant Equipment

Have all standard diver equipment, plus:

1. **Time-monitoring device**
2. **Compass**
3. **Knife/diver's tool**

Exception: Where prohibited locally.

4. **Two surface-signaling devices — one audible** (whistle, air horn, etc.) **and one visible** (inflatable surface tube, flare, signal mirror, etc.).
5. **Dive flag — where required locally**
6. **Instructions for use for dive computer or RDP/eRDP_ML**

Instructor

An instructor is a Teaching Status PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor (or higher rating).

Junior Diver Certifications

Divers who are under age 15 may earn a Junior Diver certification as indicated in a course instructor guide. **All course requirements, except dive depths, apply to junior divers unless noted specifically in the course instructor guide** (refer to junior depth limitations in the Open Water Dive section of this guide). Certification for juniors, as for adults, is based on mastery learning. Junior Diver certification cards state the restrictions based on age.

After certification, 10- to 11-year-olds are restricted to diving with a parent, guardian or PADI Professional to 12 metres/40 feet maximum depth; 12- to 14-year-olds must dive with an adult certified diver.

Logged Dives

To credit as a logged dive for course requirements, the dive takes place in open water and specific information about the dive (i.e. date, time, location, depth, profile, etc.) is recorded. Training dives for PADI courses (in open water) qualify as logged dives.

Mastery Learning

PADI courses/programs are performance based. Certification signifies that the student demonstrated mastery of all course knowledge and skill performance requirements.

During knowledge development, mastery is defined as meeting Knowledge Assessment requirements listed under Administrative Procedures. (See TecRec Instructor Guides for mastery requirements specific to technical diving courses.)

During confined and open water dives, mastery is defined as performing the skill so it meets the stated performance requirements in a reasonably comfortable, fluid, repeatable manner as would be expected of a diver at that certification level.

Materials

Diver

Ensure that student divers have a personal set of current PADI materials for study and use during the program/course and for reference afterward, to include, at a minimum, the course manual and slates (printed, digital or app version) unless unavailable in a language understood by the student diver. Ensure that student divers have a log book (physical or digital).

PADI eLearning® meets program/course manual and video material requirements.

Instructor

Use all PADI diver-level materials for PADI courses and programs, as well as the PADI *Instructor Manual*, PADI's *Guide to Teaching* and the related instructor guides.

Recommended: Use all associated instructor-level materials.

Multilevel Dive

Using the eRDP_{ML}, a multilevel dive starts at the deepest depth and progresses to shallower depths.

Night Dive

A night dive is generally conducted any time between sunset and sunrise.

Open Water Dives

Open water is a body of water significantly larger than a swimming pool offering conditions typical of a natural body of water encountered by divers.

Within this definition, there are certain sites (very large aquariums and specifically-constructed environments designed for recreational diving, for example) that provide conditions typically associated with natural bodies of water, such as appropriate depths for diving, the ability to plan and experience a dive, bottom contour and composition, water temperatures representative of the open water dive experience, and/or others. Sites having such attributes can be appropriate for conducting the following PADI open water dives:

- Discover Scuba Diving dive(s)
- PADI Scuba Diver dives
- Open Water Diver course Dives 1 and 2. **If dives are conducted in a purpose-built site, the dives must accumulate a combined total of at least 90 minutes dive time.**
- Specialty course dives that have an Open Water Diver prerequisite

Requirements

1. **Choose an appropriate open water dive environment that is conducive to meeting course performance requirements.** Consider these variables:
 - a. **Water conditions — including movement, temperature, visibility, depth and aquatic life**
 - b. **Weather conditions**
 - c. **Dive requirements**
 - d. **Number of certified assistants**
 - e. **Personal familiarity with the site**

- f. **Participant age, ability, experience and comfort level**
- 2. **Minimum depth is 5 metres/15 feet.**
- 3. **Do not exceed the maximum depth specified in course instructor guides.**
 - a. **Absolute maximum is 40 metres/130 feet.**
Exception: TecRec courses as specified in course instructor guide.
 - b. **For Junior Divers, 12–14 years — maximum depth is 21 metres/70 feet.**
 - c. **For Junior Divers, 10–11 years — maximum depth is 12 metres/40 feet.**
 - e. **When planning a training dive deeper than 18 metres/60 feet, take into account divers' deep diving experience level.**
- 4. **Do not plan or conduct dives that exceed the Recreational Dive Planner limits or the no-decompression limits of the student's dive computer (as outlined by the manufacturer's instructions).**

Exception: TecRec courses as specified in course instructor guide.

- 5. **Do not conduct open water dives and Discover Scuba Diving experience dives in caves, caverns, under ice or in any situation where direct vertical access to the surface is not possible.**

Exceptions: Ice, Cavern or Wreck Diver Specialty courses, special orientation dives for certified divers, and some TecRec dives as specified in course instructor guides.

- 6. **During open water dives, have divers spend the majority of time at 5 metres/15 feet or greater, and breathe at least 1400 litres or 50 cubic feet of compressed gas or remain submerged for at least 20 minutes.**

7. **Conduct skills outlined in the course instructor guide, and include:**
 - a. **Briefing covering dive objective, safety and care for the environment.**
 - b. **Equipment assembly and pre-dive safety check**
 - c. **Entry**
 - d. **Exit**
 - e. **Debriefing and equipment disassembly**
 - f. **Logging the dive — sign/verify each student diver's log book.**
8. **Conduct open water dives during daylight hours unless otherwise specified in the course instructor guide.** Daylight is generally defined as the time from one hour after sunrise to one hour before sunset.
9. **Student divers may participate in no more than three open water training dives in a single day, night or combination thereof.**
10. **Do not combine the performance requirements for two or more dives, such as Adventure Dives or specialty course dives, into one dive so that credit is received for more than one rating.**
11. **Divers may use enriched air on training dives if they are certified as PADI Enriched Air Divers, or while participating in the PADI Enriched Air Diver course.**

PADI Professional

A PADI Professional is a renewed PADI Member (PADI Divemaster or higher certification).

Prerequisite Certifications

Continuing education courses have PADI, TecRec orEFR certification prerequisites.

You may accept divers with certifications through other training organizations into a PADI course using this general guideline, and **after conducting a knowledge and skill preassessment.**

Qualifying Certification Description:

1. **PADI Scuba Diver** — proof of an entry-level scuba certification with a minimum of two open water training dives.
2. **PADI Open Water Diver** — proof of an entry-level scuba certification with a minimum of four open water training dives.
3. **PADI Adventure Diver** — proof of certification beyond entry-level (at least two certifications total).
4. **PADI Advanced Open Water Diver** — proof of certification beyond entry-level (at least two certifications total); proof of 20 or more logged dives; documented experience in deep diving and underwater navigation.
5. **PADI Rescue Diver** — proof of certification in diving rescue.
6. **EFR Primary Care** — proof of CPR training within the last 24 months.
7. **EFR Secondary Care** — proof of first-aid training within the last 24 months.

Ratios — Student Diver-to-Instructor

Use sound judgment and conduct a risk assessment before determining ratios. Unless otherwise noted, ratios listed are absolute maximums.

Confined Water Dives

10:1 You may add up to four more student divers per certified assistant.

If children age 10–11 participate in confined open water instead of a pool: 4:1 with no more than two children aged 10–11 in the group. This ratio can not increase by adding certified assistants.

Open Water Dives

1. **8:1** You may add up to four more student divers per certified assistant.
2. If children age 10–11 participate: 4:1 with no more than two children aged 10–11 in the group. This ratio can not increase by adding a certified assistant.
3. Reduce ratios for safety and control as needed based on risk assessment variables such as:
 - a. Water conditions — including movement, temperature, visibility, depth, aquatic life, entry/exit logistics.
 - b. Weather conditions
 - c. Dive requirements
 - d. Number of certified assistants
 - e. Your personal abilities, limitations and familiarity with the site
 - f. Participant age, ability, experience and comfort level
4. During multiple-level training, use the most conservative course ratio.
5. If certified divers join noncertified divers (entry-level or Discover Scuba Diving), count the certified divers in the ratio and stay within the student diver/participant ratio for the least qualified person.

Risk Mitigation, Professional Judgment and Responsibility

Conduct risk assessments for your student divers by evaluating diver, environmental, equipment, physical and psychological variables (as described in PADI's *Guide to Teaching*) during PADI courses and programs. Always err on the side of caution and conservatism when making decisions and applying judgment in your PADI programs.

Train divers to minimize stress and anxiety and to avoid panic in the water. Recognize outward signs of diver anxiety and panic and stay focused so nothing distracts you from intervening with a person who is stressed and anxious.

Be vigilant and diligent in your duties. See Member Code of Practice in the Commitment to Excellence section.

Shallow Water

Water shallow enough in which to stand.

Supervision

Be in control of all scuba diving activities for PADI courses and programs.

Except as indicated otherwise in the course instructor guide, supervision may be indirect.

Levels of Supervision

- 1. Direct Supervision — Observe and evaluate student diver ability to perform skills and understand theoretical knowledge. Do not delegate this responsibility to certified assistants except as outlined in specific course standards or professional membership standards.**

2. **Indirect Supervision —**
 - a. **Dive site:** Be present and in control of the activities, but not necessarily directly supervising all activities. Approve dive activities, oversee the planning, preparation, equipment inspections, entries, exits and debriefings, and be prepared to quickly enter the water.
 - b. **Classroom:** Be onsite, ready to respond to student needs and take control as needed.
3. **Under the Direction of —** Be available for consultation during the course, although not necessarily present during training sessions. Verify that all performance requirements are met by cosigning participant log books and training records.

During Waterskills Assessments and Development

1. **In a swimming pool —** Direct supervision by a Divemaster or above who is ready to enter the water.
2. **In confined open water or open water —** Direct supervision in the water by a Divemaster or above who has a floatation device, or direct supervision by a Divemaster or above who is aboard a boat within close proximity to provide immediate assistance

Training Sequence

PADI courses' performance requirements progress from simple to more complex. In general, each knowledge and skill development segment builds on the previous one. **Teach course segments in sequential order unless otherwise specified in course instructor guides.**

Key Standards

Diver Age Restrictions

See instructor guides for complete standards. Also see Youth Leader Commitment in the Commitment to Excellence section.

Age — 8- and 9-Year-Olds

Depth — Maximum 4 metres/12 feet (see individual course guide for Bubblemaker and PADI Seal Team)

Responsibility and Risk (for Confined Water) — Before the program/course, parent/guardian and child completes Bubblemaker or PADI Seal Team administrative paperwork as appropriate.

Age — 10- and 11-Year-Olds

Pool Dives Ratio — 10:1 May add up to four more student divers per certified assistant.

Confined Open Water and Open Water Dives Ratio — 4:1 No more than two children aged 10–11 in the group. This ratio can not increase by adding certified assistants.

Depth — Maximum 12 metres/40 feet

After certification — Must dive with a parent/guardian or PADI Professional to 12 metres/40 feet maximum depth

Responsibility and Risk (for Confined Open Water and Open Water) — Before course, parent/guardian and child:

- View the *Youth Risk Management* DVD (or review the Youth Diving: Responsibility and Risks Flipchart)
- Read and sign Youth Diving: Responsibility and Risks Acknowledgment form
- Parent/guardian and child sign administrative forms

Age — 12- to 14-Year-Olds

Depth — Maximum 18 metres/60 feet for Junior Open Water Divers. Maximum 21 metres/70 feet for continuing education.

After certification — Must dive with an adult certified diver

Responsibility and Risk — Parent/guardian and child sign administrative forms

Age — Under 18-Year-Olds

Responsibility and Risk — Parent/guardian and child sign administrative forms (if local law defines “legal age” as older than 18, parent/guardian sign administrative forms up to that age).

Summary of PADI Courses and Programs

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Course/Program	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Emergency First Response® Primary Care (CPR)	—	—	—	12:1:1•	EFR Instructor	4–8
Secondary Care(First Aid)	—	—	—	12:1:1•	EFR Instructor	2–4
Discover Snorkeling	—	—	Guided snorkeling	—	Divemaster or Freediver Instructor	—
Advanced Snorkeler (Skin Diver)	8	—	Confined water (< 5m/15ft) (open water dive recommended)	16:1 (10:1)	Divemaster or Freediver Instructor	12
PADI Seal Team	8	—	Pool (<2m/6ft)	6:1	Instructor	2
			Pool (<2m/6ft)	4:1	Assistant Instructor	
			Pool (2-4m/6-12ft)	2:1	Instructor or AI	
Bubblemaker	8	—	Pool	6:1	Instructor	1
			Pool	4:1	Assistant Instructor	
			Confined open water	4:1	Instructor or AI	
Discover Scuba Diving	10	—	Pool	8:1	Instructor or AI	1–3
			Pool	4:1	DSD® Leader	
			Confined open water	4:1†	Instructor or AI	
			Confined open water	2:1	DSD Leader	
			Open water – descent line	1:1	Instructor	
			1 open water dive	4:1†	Instructor	
ReActivate	10	PADI (Junior) Scuba Diver	Confined water	10:1	Divemaster	—
			Open water dive	8:1		
Discover Local Diving	10	PADI (Junior) Scuba Diver	1 open water dive	—	Divemaster	—
PADI Scuba Diver/Junior	15/10	—	3 confined water	10:1†	Instructor	19
			2 open water dives	8:1†		
Open Water Diver/Junior	15/10	—	5 confined water	10:1†	Instructor	31
			4 open water dives	8:1†		
Adventure Diver/Junior	15/10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1†	Instructor	9
Advanced Open Water Diver/Junior	15/12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	5 open water dives	8:1	Instructor	15
Rescue Diver/Junior	15/12	(Junior) Adventure Diver with Underwater Navigation Adventure Dive	Open water (10 exercises/ 2 scenarios)	8:1	Instructor	25
Master Scuba Diver/Junior	15/12	(Junior) Advanced Open Water Diver, (Junior) Rescue Diver and 5 PADI Specialties or TecRec courses	—	—	Instructor	—
Junior Divemaster	15	Rescue Diver	Waterskills, rescue assessment, dive skills and practical application	8:1	Junior Divemaster Instructor	25

Note: Ratios apply to favorable conditions only. Rough, turbid, very cold water or other circumstances may warrant reduced ratios for student safety. (See Ratios – Student Diver-to-Instructor in this guide.)

- 12 students to 1 instructor and 1 mannequin
- † For any open water or confined open water dive that includes 10–11 year olds, the maximum ratio is 4:1, no more than 2 of the 4 may be age 10 or 11.

Summary of PADI Specialty Diver Courses

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Specialty Course	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Adaptive Support Diver	15	Open Water Diver or Freediver	1 confined water 1 open water workshop	9:1 6:1	Adaptive Techniques Specialty Instructor	10
Adaptive Techniques	18	Divemaster or Master Freediver	2 confined water 2 open water workshops	9:1 6:1	Adaptive Techniques Specialty Instructor	16
Altitude Diver	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Altitude Specialty Instructor	12
AWARE – Dive Against Debris®	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	1 open water dive	8:1	AWARE – Dive Against Debris® Specialty Instructor	8
AWARE – Shark Conservation Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1	AWARE – Shark Conservation Specialty Instructor	12
Boat Diver	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Boat Specialty Instructor	12
Cavern Diver	18	Advanced Open Water Diver	4 open water dives	8:1 3:1**	Cavern Specialty Instructor	24
Coral Reef Conservation	—	—	—	—	Assistant Instructor	4
Deep Diver	15	Adventure Diver	4 open water dives	8:1	Deep Specialty Instructor	24
Delayed Surface Marker Buoy (DSMB) Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1	DSMB Specialty Instructor	12
Digital Underwater Photographer	— 10	— (Junior) Open Water Diver	1 or 2 snorkel dives 1 or 2 open water dives	— 8:1†	Digital Underwater Photo Specialty Instructor	12
Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV) Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1	DPV Specialty Instructor	12
Drift Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1	Drift Specialty Instructor	12
Dry Suit Diver	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	1 confined water 2 open water dives	6:1†	Dry Suit Specialty Instructor	12
Enriched Air Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives (optional)	8:1	Enriched Air Specialty Instructor	6 / 18 with dives
Emergency Oxygen Provider	—	—	—	12:1	Emergency Oxygen Provider Specialty Instructor	3
Equipment Specialist	10	PADI (Junior) Scuba Diver	—	—	Equipment Specialty Instructor	6
Fish Identification Diver	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Fish Identification Specialty Instructor	12
Full Face Mask Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	1 confined water 2 open water dives	8:1	Full Face Mask Specialty Instructor	15
Ice Diver	18	Advanced Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	2:1	Ice Specialty Instructor	24
Night Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1	Night Specialty Instructor	12
Peak Performance Buoyancy	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Assistant Instructor	12

Continued on next page

Summary of PADI Specialty Diver Courses (continued)

Specialty Course	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
PADI AWARE Specialist	—	—	—	—	Assistant Instructor or PADI AWARE Specialty Instructor	4
Search & Recovery Diver	12	(Junior) Advanced Open Water Diver+	4 open water dives	8:1	Search & Recovery Specialty Instructor	24
Self-Reliant Diver	18	Advanced Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1	Self-Reliant Specialty Instructor	24
Semiclosed Rebreather Diver (Dolphin/Antantis)	15	Advanced Open Water Diver++ and Enriched Air Diver	3 open water dives	6:1	Semiclosed Rebreather Specialty Instructor	24
Sidemount Diver	15	Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1	Sidemount Specialty Instructor	12
Underwater Naturalist	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Underwater Naturalist Specialty Instructor	12
Underwater Navigator	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1†	Underwater Navigation Specialty Instructor	12
Underwater Photographer	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Underwater Photography Specialty Instructor	12
Underwater Videographer	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1†	Underwater Videography Specialty Instructor	12
Wreck Diver	15	Adventure Diver	4 open water dives	8:1 2:1**	Wreck Specialty Instructor	24

Note: Ratios apply to favorable conditions only. Rough, turbid, very cold water or other circumstances may warrant reduced ratios for student safety. (See Ratios – Student Diver-to-Instructor in this guide.)

† For any open water dive that includes 10–11 year olds, the maximum ratio is 4:1, no more than 2 of the 4 may be age 10 or 11

** Ratio for cavern/wreck penetrations

+ Junior Open Water and Open Water Divers with a PADI Underwater Navigator certification also qualify

++ Open Water Diver with 10 logged dives also qualifies

Summary of PADI Public Safety Diver Courses

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Course	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Public Safety Diver	18	Rescue Diver*	4 open water dives	8:1	Public Safety Diver Instructor	30
Surface Support Specialist	18	EFR provider-level training**	4 surface support sessions	8:1	Public Safety Diver Instructor	30
Advanced Public Safety Diver	18	Public Safety Diver and Rescue Diver	6 open water dives	8:1	Advanced Public Safety Diver Instructor	36

* Or enrolled in a PADI Rescue Diver course

** Or enrolled in an EFR Primary and Secondary Care course

Summary of PADI Freediver™ Courses

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Course	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Discover Freediving	12	—	Dry and/or 1 confined water	8:1	Freediver Instructor	1–3
Basic Freediver	12	—	1 confined water	8:1	Freediver Instructor	15
Freediver	12	—	1 confined water 2 open water	8:1* 4:1±**	Freediver Instructor	15
Advanced Freediver	15	Freediver	1 confined water 2 open water	8:1 4:1	Advanced Freediver Instructor	15
Master Freediver	18	Advanced Freediver	1 confined water 2 open water	8:1 4:1	Master Freediver Instructor	15

Note: Ratios apply to favorable conditions only. Rough, turbid, very cold water or other circumstances may warrant reduced ratios for student safety. (See Ratios – Student Diver-to-Instructor in this guide.)

* 6:1 for 12–14 year olds, no additional students may be added with a certified assistant

± For students under age 15, no additional students may be added with a certified assistant.

** 2:1 for 12–14 year olds

Summary of PADI Mermaid Courses

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Course	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Discover Mermaid	6	—	1 confined water	4:1***	Basic Mermaid Instructor	—
Basic Mermaid	6	—	1 confined water	4:1***	Basic Mermaid Instructor	2
Mermaid	10	Basic Mermaid	2 confined water	6:1±	Mermaid Instructor	6
Advanced Mermaid	12	Mermaid	2 confined water 2 open water	6:1 4:1	Mermaid Instructor	10

*** Any water session that includes 6–7 year olds, ratio is 1:1; any session with 8–9 year olds, ratio is 2:1

± Any water session that includes 10–12 year olds, ratio is 4:1

Summary of PADI TecRec® Courses

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Course	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Gas Blender	18	Enriched Air Diver	—	10:1	Gas Blender Instructor	10
Trimix Blender	18	Enriched Air Diver	—	10:1	Trimix Blender Instructor	10
Tec Basics Diver	15	Advanced Open Water Diver, Enriched Air Diver	1 confined water 1 open water	6:1 4:1	Tec 40 Instructor/Tec 40 Trimix Instructor**	10
Tec 40 Diver/ Tec 40 Trimix Diver	18	Advanced Open Water Diver, Enriched Air Diver, Deep Diver	1 confined water 3 open water	6:1 4:1	Tec 40 Instructor/Tec 40 Trimix Instructor**	18
Tec 45 Diver/ Tec 45 Trimix Diver	18	Tec 40 Diver Rescue Diver	1 confined water 3 open water	6:1 4:1	Tec 45 Instructor/Tec 45 Trimix Instructor**	18
Tec 50 Diver/ Tec 50 Trimix Diver	18	Tec 45 Diver Rescue Diver	1 confined water 3 open water	6:1 4:1	Tec 50 Instructor/Tec 50 Trimix Instructor**	18
Tec Trimix 65	18	Tec 50 Rescue Diver	5 (1 confined water/limited open water, 4 open water)	3:1	Tec Trimix Instructor	15
Tec Trimix	18	Tec 50 Rescue Diver	8 (1 confined water/limited open water, 7 open water)	3:1	Tec Trimix Instructor	18
Rebreather Diver	18	Open Water Diver, Enriched Air Diver	6 (1 confined water, 1 confined or open water, 4 open water)	3:1	Rebreather Instructor+	21
Advanced Rebreather Diver	18	Open Water Diver, Rebreather Diver+	5 (1 confined water, 4 open water)	3:1	Rebreather Instructor+	18
Tec Sidemount	18	Advanced Open Water Diver	5 (1 confined water/limited open water, 4 open water)	4:1	Tec Sidemount Instructor	18
Tec 40 CCR	18	Advanced Open Water Diver, Enriched Air Diver, Deep Diver	8 (2 confined water/limited open water, 6 open water)	3:1	Tec 40 CCR Instructor+	30
Tec 60 CCR	18	Tec 40 CCR+ Rescue Diver	7 (1 confined water/limited open water, 6 open water)	4:1	Tec 60 CCR Instructor+	27
Tec 100 CCR	18	Tec 60 CCR+ Rescue Diver	6 (1 confined water/limited open water, 5 open water)	2:1	Tec 100 CCR Instructor+	27

+ Trained on specific Rebreather/CCR unit

** PADI Sidemount Instructor or Tec Sidemount Instructor required if student divers use sidemount

Summary of PADI Membership Level Courses and Programs

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Membership Level	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Divemaster	18	Advanced Open Water Diver and Rescue Diver	8:1	Open Water Scuba Instructor	50
EFR Instructor	18	EFR provider-level training	12:1•	EFR Instructor Trainer	16
Assistant Instructor	18	Divemaster	8:1	IDC Staff Instructor	40
Open Water Scuba Instructor	18	Divemaster	8:1	Course Director	90
Specialty Instructor	18	Assistant Instructor	—	Course Director*	—
Master Scuba Diver Trainer (MSDT)	18	Instructor with 5 PADI Specialty Instructor ratings**	—	*	—
Gas Blender Instructor	18	Instructor with Enriched Air Specialty Instructor rating and Gas Blender	—	Gas Blender Instructor Trainer	—
Trimix Blender Instructor	18	Instructor with Enriched Air Specialty Instructor rating, and Trimix Blender	—	Trimix Blender Instructor Trainer	—
Rebreather Instructor	18	Instructor with Enriched Air and Deep Specialty Instructor ratings; Advanced Rebreather Diver+	—	Rebreather Instructor Trainer	—
Tec Sidemount Instructor	18	Instructor with Enriched Air and Deep Specialty Instructor ratings,	—	Tec Sidemount Instructor Trainer	—
Tec 40 Instructor/Tec 40 Trimix Instructor	18	Instructor with Enriched Air and Deep Specialty Instructor ratings, Tec 45 Diver	—	Tec 50 Instructor Trainer/Tec 50 Trimix Instructor Trainer	—
Tec 45 Instructor/Tec 45 Trimix Instructor	18	Instructor with Enriched Air and Deep Specialty Instructor ratings, Tec 45 Diver	—	Tec 50 Instructor Trainer/Tec 50 Trimix Instructor Trainer	—
Tec 50 Instructor/Tec 50 Trimix Instructor	18	Instructor with Enriched Air and Deep Specialty Instructor ratings, Tec 50 Diver	—	Tec 50 Instructor Trainer/Tec 50 Trimix Instructor Trainer	—
Tec Trimix Instructor	18	MSDT with Tec 50/Tec 50 Trimix Instructor rating	—	Tec Trimix Instructor Trainer	—
Tec 40 CCR Instructor	18	MSDT with Enriched Air and Deep Specialty Instructor ratings; Tec 40 CCR Diver+	—	Tec 40 CCR Instructor Trainer+	—
Tec 60 CCR Instructor	18	Tec 40 CCR Instructor+ and Tec 60 CCR Diver+	—	Tec 60 CCR Instructor Trainer+	—
Tec 100 CCR Instructor	18	Tec 60 CCR Instructor+ and Tec 100 CCR Diver+	—	Tec 100 CCR Instructor Trainer+	—
Freediver Instructor	18	Master Freediver (Advanced Freediver with experience)	—	Freediver Instructor Trainer	—
Advanced Freediver Instructor	18	Freediver Instructor with teaching experience	—	*	—
Master Freediver Instructor	18	Advanced Freediver Instructor with teaching experience	—	*	—
Basic Mermaid Instructor	18	Advanced Mermaid	—	Mermaid Instructor	—
Mermaid Instructor	18	Advanced Mermaid	4:1	Mermaid Instructor Trainer	—
IDC Staff Instructor	18	Master Scuba Diver Trainer	—	Course Director	18
Master Instructor	20	IDC Staff Instructor and EFR Instructor	—	*	—
PADI Alumni	18	Divemaster, Assistant Instructor or Instructor	—	*	—

• 12 students to 1 instructor and 1 mannequin

* By application approved, or training conducted through PADI Office

+ Trained on specific Rebreather/CCR unit

** Excludes Peak Performance Buoyancy, PADI AWARE and Coral Conservation Specialty Instructor ratings. One PADI Freediver Instructor rating may credit.

Summary of PADI Instructor Trainer Courses and Programs

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Membership Level	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Course Director	20	Master Instructor and EFR Instructor Trainer	—	*	—
Specialty Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director and Specialty Instructor	—	*	—
EFR Instructor Trainer	18	EFR Instructor with teaching experience	12:1:1*	*	8
Freediver Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director and/or Master Freediver Instructor	—	*	—
Mermaid Instructor Trainer	18	Mermaid Instructor with experience or Freediver Instructor Trainer or Course Director/Freediver Instructor	—	*	—
Public Safety Diver Instructor Trainer	18	Course Director, Public Safety Diver Instructor, Full Face Mask Instructor Trainer, Dry Suit Instructor Trainer, EFR Instructor Trainer	—	*	—
Advanced Public Safety Diver Instructor Trainer	18	Public Safety Diver Instructor Trainer, Advanced Public Safety Diver Instructor, EFR Instructor Trainer	—	*	—
Gas Blender Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer and Gas Blender Instructor	—	*	—
Trimix Blender Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer and Trimix Blender Instructor	—	*	—
Rebreather Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer and Rebreather Instructor+	—	*	—
Tec Sidemount Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer and Tec Sidemount Instructor	—	*	—
Tec 50 Instructor Trainer/ Tec 50 Trimix Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer and/or Tec 50 Instructor/ Tec 50 Trimix Instructor	—	*	—
Tec Trimix Instructor Trainer	21	Tec 50 Instructor Trainer/ Tec 50 Trimix Instructor Trainer and Tec Trimix Instructor	—	*	—
Tec 40 CCR Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer and Tec 40 CCR Instructor+	—	*	—
Tec 60 CCR Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer, Tec 40 CCR Instructor Trainer and Tec 60 CCR Instructor+	—	*	—
Tec 100 CCR Instructor Trainer	20	Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer, Tec 60 CCR Instructor Trainer and Tec 100 CCR Instructor+	—	*	—

* By application approved, or training conducted through PADI Office

• 12 students to 1 instructor and 1 mannequin

+ Trained on specific Rebreather/CCR unit

Paperwork and Administrative Procedures

Certification

A diver earns certification (Positive Identification Card – PIC) by demonstrating mastery of all course knowledge and skill performance requirements and fulfilling all other course requirements. **For each certification, reinforce to divers that they are responsible for diving within the limits of their training and experience.**

Within seven days of a student finishing all course requirements, the certifying instructor who completed the final open water training dive or the last performance requirement of courses without dives, must:

- 1. Submit a PIC (envelope or online*), or the appropriate application to your PADI Office. Include the student diver's/candidate's complete contact information for quality management purposes.**

Exception: If delay is caused by the student diver.

*Only submit PIC Online for PADI Rebreather Diver and Tec CCR courses.

- 2. Issue either a temporary or permanent certification card to the student.**

Issue certification if the student diver has met course requirements and any agreed-upon financial arrangements. Do not withhold a certification as a means of settling personal disputes.

Documentation

- 1. At the beginning of the course (and before any inwater activities), have student divers review, complete and sign – using their full legal name on all documents:**

- **PADI Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/ Non-agency Acknowledgment Form – General Training or PADI Statement of Risk and Liability/ Non-agency Acknowledgment Form – General Training, EU Version**
- **PADI Standard Safe Diving Practices Statement of Understanding**
- **Diver Medical Form**

Exceptions: Courses with no inwater activities, certain continuing education courses (listed below), and programs that have course-specific forms (such as Discover/Experience/TecRec programs). An Adventure Dive completed on the same day as Open Water Diver course Dive 4 is covered by the Open Water Diver course documentation.

Dividing Fitness

1. A “yes” response to statements 3, 5 or 10 on page 1 of the Diver Medical Form requires written clearance to dive from a physician as a prerequisite to inwater activities.
2. A “yes” response to statements 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8 or 9 on page 1 of the Diver Medical Form requires the participant/student to respond to statements on page 2. A “yes” response to any statements on page 2 requires written clearance to dive from a physician as a prerequisite to inwater activities.
3. There can be no restrictions or conditions noted by the physician (for example, depth limits, water temperature restrictions, etc.)
4. Medical clearance from a physician is valid for one year.
Note: Medical requirements may vary from country to country, consult your PADI Regional Headquarters.
5. The physician signing the medical clearance can’t be the student.
6. Have a student diver who becomes ill or injured during a PADI course complete a new Diver Medical Form before further inwater activities. Use the medical form screen to determine if the changed medical condition would cause the diver to check off something new on the form. If so, the diver must be cleared for diving by a physician prior to resuming inwater training.

2. For Adventure Diver, Advanced Open Water Diver, Rescue Diver, Master Scuba Diver and Specialty Diver courses, use the Continuing Education Administrative Document, which includes all three forms listed above, and applies to multiple continuing education courses taken within 12 months with the same instructor, dive center or resort.
3. Have parent/guardian and child sign required forms for those under 18 years old.

Exception: If local law defines “legal age” as an age older than 18, parent/guardian signs required forms up to that age.

4. For children who are 10 or 11 years old going to confined open water or open water, have parent/guardian and child also watch the *Youth Risk Management DVD* (or review the *Youth Diving: Responsibility and Risks Flipchart*), as well as read and sign the *Youth Diving: Responsibility and Risks Acknowledgment form* before the course begins.
5. Have student divers log open water dives. Sign/verify each diver’s log book.
6. Maintain training completion records for each student diver/participant for seven years or longer (as required locally).
7. After a break in training of 12 months or greater, have a student diver complete new administrative documents.

Forms

Download the most current forms from [padi.com/Pros' Site](http://padi.com/Pros'). Check with your PADI Office for region specific releases, applications or forms. The following forms apply generally to PADI courses and programs. See each instructor guide for a list of required and recommended forms. Note that through the PADI Online Processing Center, you may be able to send digital forms to student divers for them to complete and sign.

Certification Card Replacement Form (10225)

Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency
Acknowledgment Form – Diver Activities (10086 or 10651EU)

Continuing Education Administrative Document (10038)

Incident Report Form (10120)

Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency
Acknowledgment Form – General Training (10072)

Diver Medical Form (10346)

Never Received Card Form (10226)

Quality Assurance Report Form (10117)

Standard Safe Diving Practices Statement of Understanding (10060)

Training Completion Form (10234)

Water Skills Checkoff Form (10081)

Youth Diving: Responsibility and Risks Acknowledgment (10615)

Youth Diving: Responsibility and Risks Flipchart (79130)

Additional Forms

Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency
Acknowledgment Form – Equipment Rental Agreement (10087)

Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency
Acknowledgment Form – Special Event (10085)

Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency
Acknowledgment Form – Travel and Excursions (10079)

Incident Reports

Submit a PADI Incident Report Form to your PADI Office immediately after you witness or are involved in a diving or dive operation-related accident/incident, regardless of whether the incident occurred in or out of the water;

is training related, recreational, technical or seemingly insignificant.

Knowledge Development Assessment

1. Have student divers complete course Knowledge Reviews.
2. Administer closed-book quizzes and exams under your (or a certified assistant's) supervision.

Exception: PADI eLearning product quizzes and exams that are taken online. Administer applicable Quick Reviews to digital learners like a closed-book exam at some point prior to certification.

3. Allow oral exams only when:
 - Exams are not available in a language understood by the student diver.
 - A student diver has a learning disability as documented by a health care practitioner (medical doctor, psychologist, etc.).
4. Personally review missed Knowledge Review, quiz, exam and eLearning Quick Review questions until student divers comprehend the material. Retest student divers who score less than 75 percent on a quiz, exam or quick review. Use the associated course final exam to retest PADI eLearners. Have student divers sign and date the document to confirm comprehension.

Linking Courses

Do not combine the performance requirements for two or more dives, such as Adventure Dives or specialty course dives, into one dive so that credit is received for more than one rating. You may link courses to give diver credit toward another course as follows:

Advanced Snorkeler (Skin Diver) to PADI Seal Team

Certified Advanced Snorkelers are eligible for PADI Seal Team AquaMission: Skin Diver Specialist credit.

PADI Seal Team to Open Water Diver Course

If you conduct AquaMissions 1–5, or assess skill mastery during AquaMission 5 – PADI Seal Team Skill Circuit, then PADI Seal Team members may get credit for completing Open Water Diver course Confined Water Dive 1. This link is valid for 12 months from the last AquaMission.

Discover Scuba Diving to Open Water Diver Course

If you (the instructor) conduct and ensure that participants master Open Water Diver course Confined Water Dive 1 skills during the Discover Scuba Diving program, participants are eligible for Confined Water Dive 1 credit.

If you (the instructor) go on to brief and conduct Open Water Dive 1 with the participants who have mastered Confined Water Dive 1 skills, they are eligible to get credit for completing Open Water Dive 1.

PADI Scuba Diver to Open Water Diver Course

Conduct the balance of the Open Water Diver course, including:

- 1. Knowledge Development 4 and 5 including the Quiz and Final Exam.**
- 2. Confined Water Dives 4 and 5.**
- 3. Open Water Dives 3 and 4, including any remaining Dive Flexible Skills.**
- 4. Confirm completion of either the 200 metre/yard continuous surface swim or 300 metre/yard swim with mask, snorkel and fins.**

Open Water Diver Course to Specialty Diver Courses

Conduct only one of the following courses concurrent with the PADI Open Water Diver course (if you are a certified PADI Specialty Instructor for the specialty). Specialty Dive 2, conducted after Open Water Diver certification, is the dive that may credit toward the Advanced Open Water Diver course:

1. Peak Performance Buoyancy — Integrate knowledge development any time during the course. Conduct Peak Performance Buoyancy Dive 1 skills any time during Dive 2, 3 and 4. Conduct another dive beyond course dives to complete Peak Performance Buoyancy Dive 2 skills.
2. PADI AWARE or Coral Reef Conservation course — Integrate any time during the course.
3. Enriched Air Diver — Integrate knowledge development, pre-dive simulation and practical application exercises any time during course. Enriched air dives are not required, however, diver must complete Open Water Diver certification to earn Enriched Air Diver rating. Minimum student diver age is 12.
4. Digital Underwater Photographer Level One — Integrate knowledge development any time during the course. Conduct Level One photo dive in confined water any time after Confined Water Dive 3, or in open water as part of the tour portion of Open Water Dive 4. Conduct an additional dive in open water beyond the course dives for Level Two.
5. Altitude Diver — Integrate knowledge development and conduct all four course dives at altitude. Complete Altitude Dive 1 skills during Dives 2, 3, and 4. Conduct another dive beyond course dives to complete Altitude Dive 2 skills.
6. Boat Diver — Integrate knowledge development and conduct all four course dives from a boat. Complete Boat Dive 1 skills during Dives 2, 3, and 4. Conduct another dive beyond course dives to complete Boat Dive 2 skills.

7. Dry Suit Diver — Integrate knowledge development, confined water performance requirements and conduct all four course dives in a dry suit. Complete Dry Suit Dive 1 skills during Dives 2, 3, and 4. Conduct another dive beyond course dives to complete Dry Suit Dive 2 skills.
8. Sidemount Diver — Integrate knowledge development, confined water requirements and practical application anytime during the course. Complete Sidemount Dive 1 skills during Dives 2, 3 or 4. Conduct Sidemount Dives 2 and 3 after Open Water Diver certification. Minimum student diver age is 15.
9. Delayed Surface Marker Buoy (DSMB) — Integrate knowledge development any time during the course. Conduct DSMB Dive 1 skills any time during Dive 2, 3 and 4. Conduct another dive beyond course dives to complete DSMB Dive 2 skills.
10. Full Face Mask — Integrate knowledge development any time during the course. Conduct the Full Face Mask Confined Water Dive any time after Confined Water Dive 3. Conduct Full Face Mask Dive 1 after Open Water Dive 3. Integrate Full Face Mask Dive 2 with Dive 4 or complete both Full Face Mask Dives after Dive 4.

Open Water Diver to Rescue Diver

PADI Open Water Divers may participate in Rescue Diver course Knowledge Development and Rescue Exercises in confined water. Credit knowledge development toward Rescue Diver course requirements. Skills learned in confined water prepare divers to repeat Rescue Exercises in open water.

Specialty Diver Courses to Advanced Open Water Diver Course

Dive 1 of a standardized PADI/AWARE Specialty Diver course may credit toward the related Adventure Dive in the Advanced Open Water Diver course if the diver has completed the relevant knowledge review (or vice versa).

Exception: For the Digital Underwater Photography Specialty, Dive 1 may credit as an Adventure Dive only if it is conducted using scuba equipment in open water. If not, then credit Digital Underwater Photography Dive 2.

Specialty Diver Courses to Divemaster

A PADI Search and Recovery Diver certification credits toward Divemaster Course Practical Skill 4 – Search and Recovery Scenario. A PADI Deep Diver certification credits toward Divemaster Course Practical Skill 5 – Deep Dive Scenario.

Emergency Oxygen Provider to Rescue Diver

The Emergency Oxygen Provider Specialty course can replace Rescue Diver Rescue Exercise 9 – First Aid for Pressure-related injuries and Oxygen Administration.

Rescue Diver to Divemaster

The emergency assistance plan prepared in the Rescue Diver course credits toward the same requirement in the Divemaster course.

Dive Theory eLearning to Dive Theory Exams

Completion of Dive Theory eLearning within 12 months credits toward the:

- Divemaster Final Exam – Part 2.
- Dive theory exams prerequisite for the IDC Staff Instructor course.
- Dive theory exams prerequisite for the Course Director Training Course.

Quality Management

Make a written report to your PADI Office of PADI Standards violations personally witnessed. Do not submit false reports.

If the seriousness of the situation justifies immediate action, membership status may change to Nonteaching pending further investigation.

Referral

Referral is the process of providing training documentation to another PADI Instructor when a student diver is partway through a course and wants to finish the course at another location.

Referrals expire 12 months from the date of the last training segment.

Exception: Advanced Open Water Diver course and Specialty Diver courses have no time limit.

Do not withhold a referral as a means of settling personal disputes.

Issue a referral if the student diver has completed at least one segment of the course and has met any agreed-upon financial arrangements

General Referral Procedures

When referring a student diver:

1. Complete appropriate documentation as outlined in the course instructor guide and attach a copy of the student diver's Diver Medical Form (physician's clearance), if applicable.
2. Inform the student diver of the referral expiration (if appropriate) and clearly explain what to expect from the receiving instructor: fees for instruction, preassessment, etc.

When receiving a referred student diver:

1. Verify the referral documentation.
2. Before inwater activities, have referred students review, complete and sign a new:
 - Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency Acknowledgment Form – General Training

- **PADI Standard Safe Diving Practices Statement of Understanding**
 - **Diver Medical Form**
 - If a “yes” response on the Diver Medical Form is different from the original form provided by the student diver, written clearance to dive from a physician is prerequisite to inwater activities.
3. In preparation for the dive and before beginning open water dive skills, assess the diver’s skills and comfort level inwater and generally assess dive knowledge. If the diver exhibits lack of dive readiness, remediate before training progresses.
 4. If you complete the final open water training session, ensure that all course requirements are met (including watermanship) and submit a PIC (envelope or online) or appropriate application to your PADI Office.

Waivers from PADI Standards

To request permission to deviate from a PADI Standard, submit a written request to your PADI Office including a specific description of the situation and rationale for the exception or deviation. If approved, your PADI Office will issue a standards waiver that is granted only to you (the individual member) and is valid for one year. Reapply annually to extend the waiver.

OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Open Water Diver Course, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Divers holding this certification have met ISO 24801-2 Requirements for the training of recreational scuba divers – Part 2: Level 2 – Autonomous Diver

Section One

Course Standards

Certification Requirements

- Complete five knowledge development segments, including quizzes and final exam.
- Complete Confined Water Dives 1–5.
- Meet waterskills assessment requirements.
- Complete Open Water Dives 1–4.

Depth

Open Water Dives 1 and 2 — 12 metres/40 feet

Open Water Dives 3 and 4 — 18 metres/60 feet

When conducting three dives in one day, the maximum depth for the last dive is 12 metres/40 feet.

Excursion dives taken before Dive 3 — 12 metres/40 feet

Diver Prerequisites

- 10 years old

Note: 10- to 14-year-old divers earn a Junior Open Water Diver certification.

Equipment

As described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide.

A compass is required for navigational skills and an inflatable signal tube (or DSMB) for the related dive flexible skill.

Dry Suit

For student divers to use a dry suit, the instructor must be a PADI Dry Suit Specialty Instructor and:

- **Student divers must be concurrently enrolled in a PADI Dry Suit Diver course.**
- OR**
- **Student divers must complete the confined water Dry Suit Orientation before open water dives and must be directly supervised by the instructor at a maximum ratio of 6:1 on all open water dives.**

Excursion Dives

An excursion dive is an extra dive with no formal performance requirements conducted during this course. Excursion dives allow student divers to gain experience applying general diving skills (such as buoyancy control) in open water under supervision.

Count excursion dives toward the maximum of three training dives allowed per day. Follow all supervision and ratio requirements.

Forms

Download the most current forms from [padi.com/Pros'](http://padi.com/Pros/) Site. Check with your PADI Office for region-specific releases or forms.

Required

Liability Release and Assumption of Risk Agreement (10072) or EU – Statement of Risk and Liability (10175) (including Non-Agency Disclosure and Acknowledgment Agreement)

Diver Medical Form (10346)

Standard Safe Diving Practices Statement of Understanding (10060)

Recommended

Open Water Diver Course Record and Referral Form (10056)

Student Record File (10058)

Instructor Rating

Instructor

Materials

- PADI *Open Water Diver eLearning or Manual*
- Log book

Student divers must view the PADI *Open Water Diver Video*, and each diver must use the PADI Skill Practice and Dive Planning Slate during confined and open water dives.

If student divers will learn to use the RDP table or eRDP_{ML}, the corresponding Instructions for Use booklet is required (appropriate to the student diver's personal dive planner).

Ratios

Confined Water

10:1 — May add four student divers per certified assistant.

Open Water

8:1 — May add two student divers per certified assistant to a maximum of 12.

Referrals from Other Organizations

When receiving a referred diver from another training organization for course completion, follow the Referral Procedures in the General Standards and Procedures Guide and:

- Ensure the student diver has a personal copy of PADI *Open Water Diver eLearning or Manual* for use during training and for reference afterward, unless unavailable in a language understood by the diver.
- Ensure the student diver has a logbook.

- **Assess the referred diver’s knowledge and skills by administering the Open Water Diver Quick Review, ReActivate Quick Review or Open Water Diver course final exam.**
- **Conduct a confined water dive that reviews Open Water Diver course skills in preparation for open water training dives.**

Note: See PADI’s *Guide to Teaching* for more details

Supervision

Direct Supervision:

1. **Do not leave student divers unattended, either at the surface or underwater.**
2. **Instructor conducts:**
 - **Initial skills training.**
Exceptions:
 - Assistant Instructors may conduct initial skills under direct instructor supervision.
 - Certified assistants may conduct advanced snorkeling skills during Confined Water Dives 2, 3, 4 or 5.
 - **Final evaluation to verify skill mastery before open water dives.**
3. **Instructor conducts and directly supervises all open water dives.**

Exceptions — instructor indirect supervision:

- Certified assistants supervising student divers during surface swims to and from the entry-exit point and during navigational exercises, as well as when remaining with the class when the instructor conducts a skill such as an ascent or descent with a student or student team.
- Certified assistants guiding student divers (at a ratio of 2:1) on Dives 2–4 when exploring the dive site.
- Assistant Instructors evaluating dive flexible skills at the surface in open water and conducting air pressure checks underwater.

Waterskills Assessment

Before Open Water Dive 2, have student divers demonstrate that they can comfortably maintain themselves in water too deep in which to stand by completing a 10-minute swim/float without using any swim aids.

At some point before certification, have students complete a 200 metre/yard continuous surface swim or a 300 metre/yard swim with mask, fins and snorkel.

If conditions warrant, students may wear an exposure suit as long as they are weighted for neutral buoyancy.

See General Standards and Procedures for supervision requirements specific to Waterskills Assessment and Development.

Course Subset

PADI Scuba Diver is a subset of the Open Water Diver course. See PADI Scuba Diver Instructor Guide for PADI Scuba Diver standards.

Section Two

Knowledge Development

Have student divers complete all five knowledge development segments, including successfully completing Knowledge Reviews and Quizzes and the Final Exam.

For digital learners, have student divers complete any assessments that were not completed or not successfully completed online. Administer the Open Water Diver Quick Review to student divers who successfully completed all assessments online.

Look for Knowledge Review, Quizzes and Exam Answer Keys on the Pros' Site at padi.com.

Section Three

Confined Water

General Confined Water Considerations

Have student divers use the **PADI Skill Practice and Dive Planning Slate** to indicate if they're comfortable or want more practice with each skill. This helps you assess confidence as well as ability.

Sequencing

- **Before Confined Water Dive 1, have student divers complete either Knowledge Development Session 1 or listen to the Discover Scuba Diving knowledge development briefing.**
- **Conduct Confined Water Dives in sequence and do not shift skills from one confined water dive to another.**

Exception: Dive flexible skills as outlined in this section.

Confined Water Dive Performance Requirements

Dive Flexible Skills

- **Advanced Snorkeling — During Confined Water Dives 2, 3, 4 or 5, have student divers perform:**
 1. **Following relaxed breathing at the surface, remove the snorkel from the mouth, hold the breath and make a vertical, head-first dive in water too deep in which to stand.**
 2. **Proper buddy team procedures for advanced snorkeling.**
- **Equipment Preparation and Care — Have student divers:**
 1. **Assemble and disassemble the scuba kit five times during confined water training.**

- a. **At least three times by the end of Confined Water Dive 3, with little or no assistance on the last assembly and disassembly.**
 - b. **At least five times by the end of Confined Water Dive 5, with little or no assistance on the last two assemblies and disassemblies.**
2. **Streamline and secure equipment for confined water dives by the end of Confined Water Dive 3.**
 3. **Demonstrate proper post-dive care of scuba equipment by the end of Confined Water Dive 3.**
- **Disconnect Low-Pressure Inflator Hose — Have student divers disconnect the low-pressure hose from the inflator in shallow water** (either underwater or at the surface).
 1. **By the end of Confined Water Dive 3 for PADI Scuba Divers.**
 2. **By the end of Confined Water Dive 5 for all student divers.**
 - **Loose Cylinder Band — During any Confined Water Dive, have student divers demonstrate resealing a loose cylinder band in the water either at the surface or underwater.**
 - **Weight System Removal and Replacement (surface) — After Confined Water Dive 1, have student divers remove, replace, adjust and secure weight system with minimal assistance at the surface in water too deep in which to stand.**
 1. **By the end of Confined Water Dive 3 for PADI Scuba Divers.**
 2. **By the end of Confined Water Dive 5 for all student divers.**

- **Emergency Weight Drop** — During any dive, in either confined or open water, at the surface in water too deep in which to stand, with a deflated BCD, have student divers use the weight system's quick release, to pull clear and drop sufficient weight to become positively buoyant.

Dive 1 Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. Put on and adjust mask, fins, snorkel, BCD, scuba kit and weights with assistance – using proper lifting techniques.
2. Participate in a pre-dive safety check.
3. Inflate/deflate the BCD using the low-pressure inflator in shallow water.

Underwater in shallow water:

4. Breathe compressed air by breathing naturally, without breath-holding.
5. Clear a regulator using both the exhalation and purge-button methods, then resume breathing from it.
6. Recover a regulator from behind the shoulder.
7. Clear a partially flooded mask.
8. Breathe from an alternate air source supplied by another diver for at least 30 seconds.

Underwater:

9. Descend at a controlled rate into water too deep in which to stand, equalizing the ears and mask.
10. Swim with scuba equipment while maintaining control of both direction and depth.

11. Locate and read the submersible pressure gauge and signal whether the air supply is adequate or low based on the gauge's caution zone and/or an assigned supply limit.
12. Recognize and demonstrate hand signals.
13. Ascend using proper technique.
14. Stay within reach of buddy.

At the surface in water too deep in which to stand:

15. While positively buoyant, breathe from a snorkel or regulator while swimming facedown.
16. After ascent, keep the mask on and continue breathing from the regulator while using the low-pressure inflator to attain positive buoyancy.
17. Deflate the BCD, then orally inflate it until positively buoyant.

Dive 2 Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. Plan dive.
2. Put on and adjust mask, fins, snorkel, BCD, scuba and weights with buddy – using proper lifting techniques.
3. Perform the buddy pre-dive safety check.
4. Demonstrate appropriate deep-water entry.
5. Adjust for proper weighting – float at eye level at the surface with no or minimal air in the BCD and while holding a normal breath.
6. Clear a snorkel using the blast method, then resume breathing through it without lifting the face from the water.
7. Exchange snorkel for regulator and regulator for snorkel repeatedly (at least two exchanges) without lifting the face from the water.

8. Swim at least 50 metres/yards while wearing scuba, breathing through a snorkel and staying close to buddy.

Underwater:

9. With a buddy, descend in water too deep in which to stand using the five-point method, primarily using the BCD for buoyancy control.
10. Use low-pressure BCD inflation to become neutrally buoyant. Gently rise and fall in a controlled manner, during inhalation and exhalation.
11. Clear a fully flooded mask.
12. Remove, replace and clear a mask.
13. Breathe without a mask for at least one minute.
14. Respond to air depletion by signaling "out of air."
15. Indicate remaining air supply within 20 bar/300 psi without rechecking the SPG.
16. Ascend using the five-point method, primarily using the BCD for buoyancy control.
17. Exit using the most appropriate technique. (Buddy assistance allowed.)

Dive 3 Performance Requirements

At the surface in water too deep in which to stand:

1. Demonstrate appropriate deep-water entry.
2. With a buddy, perform a weight check and adjust for proper weighting.
3. Demonstrate the cramp release technique for self and buddy (at the surface or underwater).

Underwater:

4. With a buddy, descend using only a visual reference in water too deep in which to stand, using the five-point method.

5. Hover using buoyancy control for at least 30 seconds, without kicking or sculling.
6. While neutrally buoyant, swim slowly in a horizontal position to determine trim. Adjust trim, as feasible, for a normal swimming position.
7. Respond to air depletion by signaling “out of air” and securing and breathing from an alternate air source supplied by a buddy. Continue for at least one minute while swimming, surface and inflate the BCD orally.
8. Supply air to another diver using an alternate air source.
9. Simulate a controlled emergency swimming ascent by swimming horizontally or diagonally for at least 9 metres/30 feet while emitting a continuous sound.
10. Indicate remaining air supply within 20 bar/300 psi without rechecking the SPG.

Dive 4 Performance Requirements

At the surface in water too deep in which to stand:

1. With a buddy, perform a weight check and adjust for proper weighting and trim.
2. Perform a tired diver tow for 25 metres/yards.
3. Remove, replace, adjust and secure the scuba kit with minimal assistance.

Underwater:

4. With a buddy, descend in water too deep in which to stand using the five-point method and use buoyancy control to stop the descent without contacting the bottom.
5. With a buddy, swim over a simulated environmentally sensitive bottom while maintaining buoyancy control.

6. Orally inflate the BCD to hover for at least one minute, without kicking or sculling.
7. Breathe effectively from a simulated freeflowing regulator for at least 30 seconds.
8. Swim without a mask for at least 15 metres/50 feet, then replace and clear the mask.
9. Indicate remaining air supply within 20 bar/300 psi without rechecking the SPG.
10. Make a five-point ascent from above a simulated environmentally sensitive bottom without contacting the bottom.

Dive 5 Performance Requirements

Underwater:

1. Remove, replace, adjust and secure the scuba kit with minimal assistance in water too deep in which to stand, without losing control of buoyancy, body position and depth.
2. Remove, replace, adjust and secure all or part of the weight system without losing control of buoyancy, body position and depth.
 - With weight belt and weight integrated BCD – on the bottom in water too deep in which to stand.
 - With any weight system that requires reassembly after weights are removed – in shallow water.
3. Indicate remaining air supply within 20 bar/300 psi without rechecking the SPG.
4. Complete a simulated dive – Minidive – including:
 - Plan dive with a buddy.
 - Make an entry and exit.
 - Do a weight and trim check.

- **Perform a five-point descent.**
- **With a buddy, practice previously learned skills with emphasis on neutral buoyancy, hovering and swimming.**
- **Demonstrate awareness and make efforts to avoid contact with simulated sensitive bottom and fragile aquatic organisms.**
- **Respond correctly to at least one, but not more than three, of these simulated situations: leg cramps, out of air – share air, freeflow regulator, mask flooded or off, regulator dropped from mouth, BCD inflator failure, and buddy separation.**
- **Perform a five-point ascent with a safety stop at planned time limit or designated ascent pressure.**

Section Four

Open Water

General Open Water Considerations

Sequencing

- **Conduct Open Water Dives in sequence and do not shift skills from one open water dive to another.**

Exception: Dive Flexible Skills as outlined in this section.

- **Do not conduct a dive flexible skill in open water until it has been mastered in confined water.**

Exception: Compass navigation exercises, inflatable signal tube/DSMB use and emergency weight drop.

- **If open water dives follow confined water dives in the same day, complete no more than two open water dives.**

Dive Prerequisites

Dive 1

Have student divers complete at least one of the following:

- **Discover Scuba Diving knowledge development briefing and Confined Water Dive 1.***
- **Open Water Diver Course Knowledge Development 1 (including quiz) and Confined Water Dive 1.***
- **Open Water Diver Course Knowledge Development 1–3 (including quizzes) and Confined Water Dives 1–3.**

* Follow Discover Scuba Diving supervision requirement and ratios: 4:1 or 6:1 with a certified assistant

Dive 2

Have student divers complete:

- Open Water Diver Course Knowledge Development 1–3 (including quizzes)
- Open Water Diver Course Confined Water Dives 1–3
- 10-minute swim/float without using any swim aids.

Dives 3-4

Have student divers complete all Open Water Diver Course Knowledge Development segments, Quizzes 1–4 and all Confined Water Dives.

Final Exam is completed prior to certification, not necessarily prior to final open water dive.

Open Water Dive Performance Requirements

Dive Flexible Skills

During any Open Water Dive, have student divers demonstrate the following:

At the surface:

- **Cramp Release** — Release a simulated cramp for self and buddy.
- **Tired Diver Tow** — Tow a simulated tired buddy in scuba equipment for 25 metres/yards.
- **Inflatable Signal Tube Use** — Deploy an inflatable signal tube at the surface, or deploy a delayed surface marker buoy (DSMB) from underwater.
- **Straight Line Surface Swim With Compass** — Snorkel swim in a straight line for 50 metres/yards while keeping the face in the water and using only the compass for direction reference.

- **Snorkel/Regulator Exchange** — Clear water from a snorkel and resume breathing without removing the snorkel from the mouth. Alternately breathe from snorkel and regulator without lifting the face from the water for at least two exchanges.
- **Remove and Replace Weight System and Scuba Kit** — Remove and replace the weight system in water too deep in which to stand. Remove and replace the scuba kit in water too deep in which to stand.
- **Emergency Weight Drop** — In either confined or open water too deep in which to stand, with a deflated BCD, use the weight system's quick release to pull clear and drop sufficient weight to become positively buoyant.

Underwater:

Conduct only on Dive 2, 3 or 4

- **Compass Navigation** — Swim a straight-line reciprocal course using a compass. Each diver navigates out and back.
- **Controlled Emergency Swimming Ascent (CESA)** — Perform a controlled emergency swimming ascent from a depth of 6–9 metres/20–30 feet and establish positive buoyancy at the surface.

Conduct CESA following the procedures outlined below.

Controlled Emergency Swimming Ascent

Briefing the Skill

Instruct student divers to:

- **Retain their regulators in their mouths.**
- **Not drop their weights.** Remind students that in an actual emergency, they ditch weights only when any doubt exists about their ability to reach the surface.
- **Not use the control line for assistance – the line is only for the instructor to use for control and emergency stopping.**

- Maintain a normal ascent rate.
- Make a continuous sound throughout the ascent.
- Resume normal breathing if you stop the ascent, or if they experience any difficulty.
- Orally inflate the BCD or drop weights upon reaching the surface.

Setting Up the Exercise

Use a vertical control line (at least 12 millimetres/0.5 inch thick) buoyed by a surface float. Ensure that the line is either tied off firmly at the bottom or held down with sufficient weight to enable you to stop the ascent at any time by grasping it with a hand or leg wrap while holding the student firmly. The line must be secure at the surface. If secured to a float, ensure that the float is big enough so it doesn't submerge when pulled and remains on the surface with two divers on the line. Conduct the skill one student at a time while maintaining physical contact with both the student and the control line.

Site

Begin this skill at a depth of at least 6 metres/20 feet but not exceeding 9 metres/30 feet.

Conducting the Exercise

1. Grasp the student with one hand and maintain contact with the line.
2. Give the up signal to begin the ascent. The student begins to exhale while emitting a continuous sound.
3. The student kicks to start, then reduces effort and continues kicking. The student doesn't use the control line during the ascent. Ensure that the student keeps the regulator and weights in place. The student's air remains turned on throughout the exercise. Don't help the student ascend.
4. The student maintains contact with the BCD or dry suit deflator mechanism to vent excess air during ascent.
5. Observe and maintain control during the ascent, not exceeding 18 metres/60 feet per minute. The student should be held near and just below you, which allows you to listen for the student's sound and tends to make the student look up toward you. Watch to be sure the student exhales continuously. Stop the ascent if there is any doubt. If you must interrupt the ascent, have the student repeat the exercise from the beginning.

6. Upon surfacing, have the student orally inflate the BCD or drop weights. Caution to look for divers below before releasing weight. Wait for the student to become calm and relaxed before engaging in other training exercises.

Dive 1 Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. During briefing, recognize the hand signals for "okay," "something is wrong," "ear problem," "low air," "up/end the dive," "stay with your buddy," and the audible (or tactile) and visual signal for "look at me."
2. Put on and adjust equipment – using proper lifting techniques.
3. Perform a pre-dive safety check.
4. Enter the water with BCD inflated to provide positive buoyancy.
5. Check and adjust weighting.

Underwater:

6. Descend with control and reference using a descent line or sloping bottom contour to a depth not greater than 12 metres/40 feet.
7. Participate in a trim check.
8. Clear a partially flooded mask.
9. Recover and clear the regulator at depth.
10. Explore the dive site.
11. Signal whether remaining air supply is near designated caution zone, and/or indicate air supply in bar/psi.
12. Stay close enough to make physical contact with buddy within two seconds.

13. Ascend no faster than 18 metres/60 feet per minute while maintaining buddy contact. Use the five-point method (if Confined Water Dive 3 completed).

Dive 2 Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. Plan the dive, including air supply management/turn pressure, time limits, entries and exits, buddy separation procedures and basic emergency procedures.
2. Put on, adjust and streamline equipment. Use proper lifting techniques.
3. Perform a pre-dive safety check.
4. Adjust weighting and trim, as necessary.
5. When at the surface, establish positive buoyancy, keep the mask on and breathe from the snorkel or regulator.
6. Deflate BCD, then orally inflate it until positively buoyant in water too deep in which to stand.

Underwater:

7. Descend using a descent line or sloping bottom contour for control and reference to a depth not greater than 12 metres/40 feet. Use the five-point method.
8. Become neutrally buoyant by adjusting air in the BCD (or dry suit) with the low-pressure inflator.
9. Clear a fully flooded mask.
10. Perform each role: In a stationary position, one person signals "out of air" and secures and breathes from an alternate air source provided by another diver; the other diver provides the air source.
11. Ascend properly using an alternate air source and establish positive buoyancy at the surface. Act as either donor or receiver.

12. Explore the dive site.
13. Avoid contact with sensitive organisms and the bottom, and resecure any equipment that becomes loose.
14. Stay close enough to make physical contact with buddy within two seconds.
15. Indicate remaining air supply within 20 bar/300 psi without rechecking the SPG.
16. Signal air remaining at intervals assigned during dive planning.
17. Ascend no faster than 18 metres/60 feet per minute while maintaining buddy contact. Use the five-point method (unless ascending using the alternate air source ascent). **Make a safety stop if feasible.**

Dive 3 Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. Plan the dive.
2. Put on, adjust and streamline equipment. Use proper lifting techniques.
3. Perform a pre-dive safety check.
4. Adjust weighting and trim, as necessary.
5. When at the surface, establish positive buoyancy, keep the mask on and breathe from the snorkel or regulator.

Underwater:

6. Descend with a visual reference for control to no greater than 18 metres/60 feet. Use the five-point method.
7. Become neutrally buoyant and hover by inflating the BCD orally.
8. Remove, replace and clear the mask.
9. Explore the dive site.

10. Avoid contact with sensitive organisms and the bottom, and resecure any equipment that becomes loose.
11. Stay close enough to make physical contact with buddy within two seconds.
12. Indicate remaining air supply within 20 bar/300 psi without rechecking the SPG.
13. Signal air remaining at intervals assigned during dive planning.
14. Ascend no faster than 18 metres/60 feet per minute while maintaining buddy contact. Use the five-point method. Make a safety stop if feasible.

Dive 4 Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. As a buddy team, plan the dive using the PADI Skill Practice and Dive Planning Slate.
2. Put on, adjust and streamline equipment. Use proper lifting techniques.
3. Perform a pre-dive safety check.
4. Adjust weighting and trim, as necessary.
5. When at the surface, establish positive buoyancy, keep the mask on and breathe from the snorkel or regulator.

Underwater:

6. Descend with no visual reference to no greater than 18 metres/60 feet. Use the five-point method.
7. With a buddy, explore the dive site.
8. Avoid contact with sensitive organisms and the bottom, and resecure any equipment that becomes loose.

- 9. Stay close enough to make physical contact with buddy within two seconds.**
- 10. Indicate remaining air supply within 20 bar/300 psi without rechecking the SPG.**
- 11. With a buddy, signal when to turn the dive and when to ascend, based on air supply or time per the dive plan, and take appropriate action.**
- 12. Ascend no faster than 18 metres/60 feet per minute while maintaining buddy contact. Use the five-point method. Make a safety stop.**

PADI SCUBA DIVER COURSE

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Scuba Diver Course, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Divers holding this certification have met ISO 24801-1 Requirements for the training of recreational scuba divers – Part 1: Level 1 – Supervised Diver

Course Standards

The PADI Scuba Diver course is a subset of the Open Water Diver course. PADI Scuba Divers are trained to dive under the direct supervision of a PADI Divemaster, Assistant Instructor or Instructor to a maximum depth of 12 metres/40 feet. PADI Scuba Divers have more theoretical background and better developed waterskills than Discover Scuba® Diving participants, however, they are not qualified for independent diving.

All Open Water Diver course standards apply, with the following modifications.

Certification Requirements

- **Complete Knowledge Development 1–3, including quizzes.**
- **Complete Confined Water Dives 1–3 including Dive Flexible Skills:**
 - **Equipment Preparation and Care**
 - **Disconnect Low-Pressure Inflator Hose**
 - **Weight System Removal and Replacement**
- **Complete a 10-minute swim/float demonstrating comfort in water too deep in which to stand prior to Open Water Dive 2.**
- **Complete Open Water Dives 1–2 including Dive Flexible Skills:**
 - **Snorkel to Regulator Exchange**
 - **Cramp Release**
 - **Inflatable Signal Tube/DSMB Deployment**
 - **Emergency Weight Drop (in confined or open water)**
- **Read and sign the PADI Scuba Diver Statement (10062).**

Instructor Rating

Instructor

Supervising Certified PADI Scuba Divers

Determine appropriate ratios based on the environment, conditions and the PADI Scuba Diver's experience. Guided dives should be to a maximum depth of 12 metres/40 feet. Because PADI Scuba Divers have no formal training in dive table or computer use, watch the dive tables and repetitive no stop limits for PADI Scuba Divers.

Upgrade to Open Water Diver

Use the following procedures to upgrade PADI Scuba Divers at any time to Open Water Divers:

- 1. Retain a photocopy of the diver's certification card.**
- 2. Have the diver complete a Liability Release and Assumption of Risk Agreement, Standard Safe Diving Practices Statement of Understanding and Diver Medical Form.**
- 3. Preassess the diver's knowledge and skills, and remediate as necessary.**
- 4. Have the diver complete either a 200 metre/yard continuous surface swim or 300 metre/yard swim with mask, snorkel and fins.**
- 5. Have the diver complete the balance of the Open Water Diver course:**
 - a. Knowledge Development 4–5 including Quiz 4 and the Final Exam.**
 - b. Confined Water Dives 4–5, and all remaining Dive Flexible Skills.**
 - c. Open Water Dives 3–4, and all remaining Dive Flexible Skills.**

ADVANCED OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Advanced Open Water Diver Course, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Section One

Course Standards

Adventure Dives

The first dives of PADI Specialty Diver courses for which there are standardized specialty instructor guides (and the PADI Rebreather Diver course) qualify as Adventure Dives.

Note: The PADI Rebreather Diver course is not a PADI Specialty Diver course, but the first dive, which is in confined water, may count as an Adventure Dive.

Check Sections Two and Three for Adventure Dive knowledge development options and skill requirements.

Certification Requirements

For Adventure Diver, student divers meet performance requirements:

- **Complete three Adventure Dives.**
- **Complete the three Knowledge Reviews for the completed Adventure Dives.**
- **Complete Thinking Like a Diver Knowledge Development section.**

For Advanced Open Water Diver, student divers meet performance requirements:

- **Complete five Adventure Dives including Deep and Underwater Navigation.**
- **Complete the five Knowledge Reviews for the completed Adventure Dives.**
- **Complete Thinking Like a Diver Knowledge Development section.**

Certified Assistant

Certified assistants for the Cavern, Dry Suit, Enriched Air, Full Face Mask, Ice and Rebreather (unless diving in standard open circuit equipment) Adventure Dives must hold the corresponding diver-level specialty certification for the dive.

Depth

For divers age 15 or older — 30 metres/100 feet

Depth requirements vary by dive. Check Section Three for information specific to each Adventure Dive and the General Standards and Procedures Guide for junior diver limitations.

For rebreather use, maximum depth is the depth for which divers are qualified with the rebreather or 18 metres/60 feet, whichever is shallower.

Diver Prerequisites

- **Certified as PADI (Junior) Open Water Diver**

Check Section Two for minimum age prerequisites specific to each Adventure Dive.

Note: 10- and 11-year-old divers may only earn a Junior Adventure Diver certification.

Equipment

As described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide, **plus each diver has a dive knife/tool, a compass and a dive computer (or timing device and eRDP_{ML}/RDP Table).**

Check Section Three and/or the related Specialty Instructor Guide for equipment requirements specific to each Adventure Dive.

Forms

Download the most current forms from [padi.com/Pros' Site](http://padi.com/Pros'). Check with your PADI Office for region-specific releases, applications or forms.

Required

Continuing Education Administrative Document (10038 or EU 10541) with Diver Medical Form (10346)

Recommended

Advanced Open Water Diver Course Documentation Worksheet (10090)

Instructor Rating

Instructor

Note: See Adventure Dive Knowledge Development Options and Requirements chart

Materials

Required

- **PADI *Advanced Open Water Diver eLearning or Manual***

Exception: When the diver has PADI specialty manuals or AWARE materials for each Adventure Dive conducted.

- **Log book**

Each student diver must use the PADI Advanced Open Water Diver Multipurpose Data Carrier (69230) during open water dives.

Recommended

- PADI *Advanced Open Water Diver Video*
- PADI Specialty Diver Manuals and videos
- AWARE course materials

Ratios

General — **8:1 May add four student divers per certified assistant**

On deep dives, do not increase this ratio with the use of certified assistants.

Ratios may vary by dive as noted in Section Three.

Supervision

General — **Indirect supervision allowed for dives conducted to 18 metres/60 feet or less. Direct supervision required for dives conducted deeper than 18 metres/60 feet, unless all divers have completed the Deep Adventure Dive.**

Supervision may vary by dive. Check Section Three for information specific to each Adventure Dive.

Section Two

Knowledge Development

Review information necessary to safely complete the Adventure Dive with divers before each dive. You may do this through pre-dive briefings, structured discussions or by having divers complete the appropriate Adventure Dive Knowledge Review. If available, you may use PADI Specialty Diver/AWARE materials for any Adventure Dive.

Ideally, the Thinking Like A Diver knowledge development section should precede the first Adventure Dive, but it may be completed any time prior to certification.

Give divers credit for the Adventure Dive only when the Knowledge Review is completed and reviewed. Complete and sign the Adventure Dive Training Record or otherwise document that both knowledge review and dive are complete.

Look for Knowledge Review Answer Keys on the Pros' Site of padi.com

Adventure Dives Conducted Using PADI Specialty Diver Course Materials

When using specialty diver materials for Adventure Dives not supported by PADI Advanced Open Water Diver materials, meet these requirements:

1. You must be certified as an instructor for the specialty.
2. Student divers must meet all prerequisites and other requirements for the specialty.

Exception: Student divers do not have to be Advanced Open Water Divers for the Cavern, Ice or Self-Reliant Adventure Dives.

3. Use Knowledge Reviews in the specialty materials to assess knowledge development mastery.

Adventure Dive Knowledge Development Options and Requirements

Material Options				
Adventure Dive	Advanced Open Water Diver materials	Specialty Diver Manual/AWARE materials	Must be Specialty Diver Instructor	Diver Minimum Age
Adaptive Support			✓	15
Altitude	✓			10
Boat	✓	✓		10
Cavern			✓	18
Deep	✓	✓		12
Delayed Surface Marker Buoy				12
Digital Underwater Imaging	✓	✓		10
Dive Against Debris (AWARE)		✓	✓	10
Diver Propulsion Vehicle		✓	✓	12
Drift	✓	✓		12
Dry Suit	✓	✓	✓	10
Enriched Air		✓	✓	12
Fish Identification	✓			10
Full Face Mask			✓	12
Ice			✓	18
Night	✓	✓		12
Peak Performance Buoyancy	✓	✓		10
Rebreather		✓	✓	18
Rescue		✓		12
Search & Recovery	✓	✓		12
Self-Reliant			✓	18
Shark Conservation (AWARE)		✓	✓	12
Sidemount		✓	✓	15
Underwater Naturalist	✓	✓		10
Underwater Navigation	✓	✓		10
Wreck	✓	✓		12

Section Three

Open Water

General Open Water Considerations

- Do not combine the performance requirements for two or more dives into one Adventure Dive.
- Do not conduct Adventure Dives in any situation where direct access to the surface is not possible.

Exceptions: Ice and Cavern Adventure Dives.

- On every Adventure Dive, prompt divers to think like a diver before, during and after the dive. In the briefing include reminders regarding dive planning, applying situational awareness, managing task loading and demonstrating good dive habits. During the debriefing, ask divers questions that require them to apply Thinking Like a Diver principles.
- When conducting Dive One of a PADI Specialty Diver course, follow all depth limits, ratios and other training requirements as noted in the appropriate specialty instructor guide.

Core Dives

Deep Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. If you do not have recent dive experience with the diver, in preparation for the dive generally assess diver knowledge, and, before going to depth in open water, evaluate the diver inwater for prerequisite skills needed to complete the Deep Dive.
2. Directly supervise all student divers. Position yourself so that you or a certified assistant can make immediate physical contact with and render assistance to divers.

Continually observe divers with only the brief, periodic interruptions needed to lead the dive and to provide assistance to individual divers.

3. Maximum ratio is 8:1. Do not increase this ratio with the use of certified assistants. If conditions affect your ability to directly observe and respond to divers, reduce ratios.
4. Conduct dive between 18-30 metres/60-100 feet.
5. Follow depth limits and ratios for Junior Divers as described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide.

Performance Requirements

1. With a buddy, plan and manage gas use, including determining turn pressure, ascent pressure and reserve pressure. Establish no stop and dive time limits.
2. Descend using a line, wall or sloping bottom.
3. Compare changes in color at the surface and at depth.
4. Compare a dive computer (or depth gauge) reading to another diver's depth reading.
5. Ascend at a rate not to exceed 18 metres/60 feet per minute using a dive computer (or depth gauge and timing device).
6. Make a safety stop at 5 metres/15 feet for at least three minutes.

Underwater Navigation Adventure Dive

Performance Requirements

1. Maintain neutral buoyancy.
2. Determine the average number of kick cycles *and* average amount of time required to swim underwater at a normal, relaxed pace approximately 30 metres/100 feet.

3. **Navigate to a predetermined location and return to within 15 metres/50 feet of the starting point using natural references and estimated distance measurement (kick cycles or time). Surface only if necessary to verify direction or location.**
4. **Position and handle a compass underwater to maintain an accurate heading while swimming.**
5. **Navigate without surfacing to a predetermined location and return to within 6 metres/20 feet of the starting point using a compass and estimated distance measurement (kick cycles or time).**
6. **Swim a square or rectangular pattern underwater, returning to within 8 metres/25 feet of the starting point using a compass and beginning from a fixed location.** Recommended size of square – each side 30 metres/100 feet, or total combined length of approximately 120 metres/400 feet.

Elective Dives

Adaptive Support Diver Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. **Use the PADI Adaptive Techniques Specialty Instructor Guide and have student divers complete Knowledge Review Part 1.**
2. **Conduct the required Confined Water Workshop One: Adaptive Techniques.**
3. **Complete all Open Water Workshop One performance requirements.** Recommended depth is 6–12 metres/20–40 feet.

Altitude Adventure Dive

Considerations

At altitudes between 2400–3000 metres/8000–10,000 feet, wait a minimum of six hours after arrival at altitude before diving.

Performance Requirements

1. Determine the no decompression limits for the depth at the altitude at which the dive will take place using a dive computer that has altitude capability or using the Recreational Dive Planner and the Theoretical Depth at Altitude Table.
2. Descend using a reference line or sloping bottom.
3. Compare computer depth readings with another diver's computer (or depth gauge) and record the differences (if any) on a slate or wet book.
4. Ascend no faster than 9 metres/30 feet per minute, using a dive computer (or depth gauge and timing device).
5. Ascend using a reference line or sloping bottom.
6. Make a safety stop for at least a three minutes at a theoretical depth of 5 metres/15 feet, or as guided by dive computer.

Boat Adventure Dive

Considerations

Student divers must have an inflatable signal tube or DSMB to use.

Performance Requirements

1. Identify the following areas of the specific boat being used for the dive: bow, stern, starboard, port, entry area, exit area and area to stow dive equipment.

2. **Locate important emergency/safety equipment aboard the boat (such as: first-aid kit, oxygen, AED unit, life preservers, dive flag, radio and fire extinguisher).**
3. **Enter the water based on the type of dive boat being used.**
4. **Navigate from and back to the boat, using method appropriate for the environment, and ascend using the boat's mooring/anchor line, a reference line, or near the exit area, as planned and appropriate for the environment and boat.**
5. **Make a safety stop at 5 metres/15 feet for at least three minutes.**
6. **Deploy an inflatable signal tube at the surface, or deploy a delayed surface marker buoy (DSMB) from underwater.**
7. **Exit the water based on the type of dive boat being used.**

Cavern Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. **Use the Cavern Diver Specialty Instructor Guide and have student divers complete the Knowledge Review and all Dive One performance requirements.**
2. **Conduct the dive in open water, practicing the use of lines and reels and emergency procedures. Exploration of a cavern is optional.**
3. **If entering a cavern, directly supervise divers at a maximum ratio of 3:1.**
4. **If entering a cavern, limit the dive to within the light zone and within 40 metres/130 feet from the surface, vertical and horizontal distance included.**

Delayed Surface Marker Buoy Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. Use the Delayed Surface Marker Buoy Diver Specialty Instructor Guide and have student divers complete the Knowledge Review.
2. Maximum depth is 18 metres/60 feet. Recommended depth is 9–12 metres/30–40 feet.

Performance Requirements

1. Prepare, stow and adjust DSMB and reel that will be used on the dive.
2. Deploy a DSMB from a stationary position.
3. Swim underwater while towing a DSMB on the surface for at least 10 minutes, adjusting the line by reeling it in and out as required.
4. Ascend as a buddy team while using a DSMB line as a visual or tactile reference.
5. Deflate and recover a DSMB at the surface.

Digital Underwater Imaging Adventure Dive

Considerations

Student divers must have an underwater camera system to use.

Performance Requirements

1. Demonstrate how to properly set up an underwater camera system, including camera and external light (if used) settings and housing preparation.
2. Shoot stills and/or video that demonstrate fundamentally usable exposure, focus and composition.

3. If shooting video, demonstrate fundamental awareness of shooting to tell a story and allow for editing.
4. Dive with a camera in a manner that demonstrates prioritizing diver safety and protecting the environment over imaging and cameras.

Dive Against Debris (AWARE) Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. Use the **AWARE – Dive Against Debris Specialty Instructor Guide**.
2. Have student divers use the **Dive Against Debris Survey Guide** to complete the Knowledge Review.
3. Complete all Dive One performance requirements.

Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV) Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. Use the **Diver Propulsion Vehicle Diver Specialty Instructor Guide**.
2. Have student divers complete the Knowledge Review in the **PADI *Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV) eLearning/Manual***.
3. Complete all Dive One performance requirements. Recommended depth is 6–18 metres/20–60 feet.

Drift Adventure Dive

Performance Requirements

1. With a buddy, plan a drift dive accounting for appropriate techniques for the environment, conditions, depth and other variables.
2. Make an entry specific to the environmental conditions and the planned drift technique(s).
3. Maintain buddy contact as planned for that environment.

4. **Maintain neutral buoyancy and avoid unintended contact with aquatic life and the bottom.**
5. **Make a safety stop at 5 metres/15 feet for at least three minutes.**
6. **Exit as planned, specific to the particular environmental conditions.**

Dry Suit Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. **Directly supervise divers at a maximum ratio of 6:1. Two additional students may be added with a certified assistant to a maximum of eight students.**
2. **Orient divers to dry suits in confined water before divers use them for the first time in open water. See Dry Suit Orientation in the General Standards and Procedures section for requirements.**
3. **Each student diver must use a dry suit.**
4. **The instructor must directly supervise student divers on dives deeper than 18 metres/60 feet at a maximum ratio of 4:1.**
5. **After divers successfully demonstrate all performance requirements, including removal and replacement of the scuba unit at the surface, a certified assistant may directly supervise a maximum of two divers (2:1) for the remainder of the dive.** The safety stop does not have to be assessed by the instructor prior to certified assistant direct supervision.

Performance Requirements

1. **Put on and remove a dry suit with another diver's help.**
2. **Adjust weighting at the surface – deflate BCD and dry suit, hold a normal breath and float at eye level** (top of head level if using a rebreather).

3. **Perform a controlled descent and avoid suit squeeze.**
4. **Demonstrate neutral buoyancy by gently rising and falling in a controlled manner during inhalation and exhalation for one minute** (rise and fall not required if using a rebreather).
5. **Hover using buoyancy control for at least one minute, without kicking or sculling** (minor hand sculling allowed if using a rebreather).
6. **Maintain neutral buoyancy during the dive and avoid accidentally kicking up silt or touching the bottom.**
7. **Perform a neutrally buoyant ascent from the bottom, at a rate no faster than 9 metres/30 feet per minute.**
8. **Make a safety stop at 5 metres/15 feet for at least three minutes.**
9. **Remove and replace scuba kit and weights at the surface.**

Enriched Air Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. **Use the Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor Guide.**
2. **Have student divers complete the Knowledge Review in the PADI *Enriched Air Diver Manual* or *Enriched Air Diver eLearning*.**
3. **If, prior to the dive, student divers have not completed the Enriched Air Diver Knowledge Review, present the Enriched Air Dive Today briefing.**
4. **Have divers complete the Enriched Air Diver course Practical Application 1 prior to the dive. This may be part of the pre-dive briefing and preparation.**
5. **Limit the dive to a maximum depth of 30 metres/ 100 feet or PO_2 of 1.4 ata for the blend – whichever is shallowest.**

6. Limit the maximum allowable enriched air oxygen content to 40 percent.
7. If divers will dive using air-only computers, the maximum allowable oxygen content is 32 percent, the maximum depth is 30 metres/100 feet (or shallower if a shallower limit applies) and the total dive time for the day is 160 minutes.
8. Watch student divers as they set their enriched air dive computer and confirm correct settings. You may then indirectly supervise the dive. You may also indirectly supervise divers who have successfully completed both Enriched Air Diver course Knowledge Development Sections and the final exam.

Fish Identification Adventure Dive

Considerations

Each student diver must have a slate or wet book.

Performance Requirements

1. Categorize fish by placing them in appropriate family groups, and identify specific species.
2. Record fish sightings on a slate, including abundance and habitat information.
3. Sketch/photograph and describe characteristics of unfamiliar fish; then attempt to determine their identities after the dive using a field guide, fish identification slate and/or online resources.
4. Demonstrate appropriate and responsible dive practices and behaviors to avoid negative environmental effects.

Full Face Mask Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. Use the Full Face Mask Diver Specialty Instructor Guide and have student divers complete the Knowledge Review.
2. Conduct the required confined water dive and have divers practice using the full face mask they'll use during the Adventure Dive.
3. Complete all Dive One performance requirements.
4. Maximum depth is 18 metres/60 feet.
5. Divers must carry a traditional scuba mask as a backup.

Ice Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. Use the Ice Diver Specialty Instructor Guide and have student divers complete the Knowledge Review and all Dive One performance requirements.
2. The minimum team size for an ice diver training dive is two safety divers and two surface tenders (primary and rescue) in addition to the dive team of up to two student divers and one instructor/certified assistant.
3. Maximum depth is 18 metres/60 feet linear distance from the entry hole, vertical and horizontal distance included.

Night Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. Conduct this dive any time between sunset and sunrise.
2. Directly supervise divers at a maximum ratio of 8:1 or have a certified assistant supervise divers at a maximum ratio of 4:1.

- 3. Each student diver must have an underwater light.**
A backup underwater light and marker/chemical light is recommended.

Performance Requirements

- 1. Descend using a reference line or sloping bottom.**
- 2. Communicate on the dive using both hand signals and dive lights.**
- 3. Demonstrate how to use a dive light, submersible pressure gauge, compass, timing device and depth gauge at night.**
- 4. Navigate to a predetermined location using a compass/natural features and return to within 8 metres/25 feet of the starting point. When necessary, surface for orientation.**
- 5. Maintain buddy contact throughout the dive.**
- 6. Ascend using a reference line or sloping bottom.**

Peak Performance Buoyancy Adventure Dive

Performance Requirements

- 1. Rig a weight system with the following considerations in mind:**
 - a. Estimate weights using PADI's Basic Weighting Guidelines, and/or based on prior experience using the same equipment in the same type of environment.**
 - b. Position and distribute the weight for comfort and desired body position (trim) in the water.**
- 2. Streamline equipment by properly securing and attaching all hoses, gauges and accessories.**
- 3. Adjust for proper weighting – float at eye level at the surface with an empty BCD, while holding a normal breath (top of head level if using a rebreather).**

4. **Make a controlled, slow descent to the bottom and adjust for neutral buoyancy.**
5. **Adjust for neutral buoyancy at a predetermined depth.**
6. **Hover for 60 seconds without rising or sinking more than 1 metre/3 feet by making minor depth adjustments using breath control only (open-circuit scuba), or using very minor hand/fin sculling only (rebreathers).**
7. **Throughout the dive, control buoyancy and swim relaxed and neutrally buoyant in a horizontal position without touching the bottom or breaking the surface, making frequent and small adjustments to buoyancy as needed.**
8. **Reposition weights as appropriate to adjust trim, and hover in different positions – vertical, horizontal, feet elevated and head elevated.**
9. **Conduct a post-dive buoyancy check to confirm the appropriateness of the amount of weight worn.**

Rebreather Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. **Use the Rebreather Diver Course Instructor Guide.**
2. **Have student divers complete PADI Rebreather Diver Chapter One and Knowledge Review One using the *PADI Rebreather & Advanced Rebreather Diver Manual*.**
3. **Have divers complete the PADI Rebreather Diver course Practical Application 1 prior to the dive. This may be part of the pre-dive preparation.**
4. **Complete all Dive One performance requirements.**
5. **Divers who are certified as PADI Adventure Divers, have made the Underwater Navigation and Deep Adventure Dives and meet all other prerequisites for the Integrated**

PADI Rebreather Diver and Advanced Rebreather Diver courses may complete the first dive of the integrated program (Rebreather Dive 1 and Advanced Rebreather Dive 1 combined) as the Rebreather Adventure Dive. It may be credited toward the integrated program.

Rescue Adventure Dive

Considerations

- 1. Have divers complete Rescue Diver course knowledge development: Section One – Responding to Diver Emergencies and Section Three – Missing Diver Procedures, via either option:**
 - a. Study using PADI *Rescue Diver eLearning* or the *Rescue Diver Manual*
 - b. Cover the topics using the Rescue Diver Course Lesson Guide Presentation Notes.
- 2. Have divers complete the Rescue Adventure Dive Knowledge Review.**
- 3. Complete these Rescue Diver course skills:**
 - a. **Self-rescue skills: cramp release and alternate air source use**
 - b. **Exercise 1 – Tired Diver**
 - c. **Exercise 2 – Panicked Diver**
 - d. **Exercise 5 – Missing Diver**

Search and Recovery Adventure Dive

Considerations

To conduct the dive, have a small object, large object (maximum 11 kilograms/25 pounds), line and lift bag with rigging.

Performance Requirements

1. Search an area approximately 15 x 15 metres/50 x 50 feet to find a small submerged object, or search until reaching a planned dive limit.
2. Search an area approximately 30 x 30 metres/ 100 x 100 feet to find a submerged object that weighs no more than 11 kilograms/25 pounds, or search until reaching a planned dive limit.
3. Tie knots underwater: bowline, two half-hitches, sheet bend.
4. Use an appropriate lifting device to safely rig and bring to the surface an object that weighs no more than 11 kilograms/25 pounds.

Self-Reliant Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. Use the Self-Reliant Diver Specialty Instructor Guide and have student divers complete the Knowledge Review and all Dive One performance requirements.
2. If you do not have recent dive experience with the diver, in preparation for the dive, generally assess diver knowledge and evaluate the diver inwater for prerequisite skills and comfort needed to complete the dive.
3. Directly supervise divers at a maximum ratio of 8:1. Do not increase this ratio with the use of certified assistants.

Shark Conservation (AWARE) Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. Use the AWARE – Shark Conservation Diver Specialty Instructor Guide, and have student divers complete the Knowledge Review and all Dive One performance requirements.

Sidemount Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. Use the Sidemount Diver Specialty Instructor Guide.
2. Have student divers complete PADI Sidemount section and Knowledge Review One using the PADI *Sidemount and Tec Sidemount Diver eLearning/Manual*.
3. Have divers complete the Sidemount Diver Practical Application prior to the required Confined Water Dive.
4. During the Confined Water Dive, have divers practice with the configuration – either single-cylinder or two-cylinder – that they will use during the Adventure Dive.
5. If divers use single-cylinder sidemount during the Adventure Dive, skills requiring two-cylinder sidemount do not apply.
6. Have student divers complete all Dive One performance requirements. Conduct dive between 6–18 metres/20–60 feet.

Underwater Naturalist Adventure Dive

Performance Requirements

1. Passively observe aquatic life.
2. Maintain neutral buoyancy and body-positioning to avoid negative effects on aquatic organisms.
3. With a buddy, locate and identify at least two aquatic plants (one for fresh water).
4. With a buddy, locate, observe and identify at least four aquatic invertebrate animals (one for fresh water).
5. With a buddy, locate, observe and identify at least five aquatic vertebrate animals (two for fresh water).

Wreck Adventure Dive

Considerations

1. **Directly supervise divers at a maximum ratio of 8:1 or have a certified assistant supervise divers at a maximum ratio of 4:1.**
2. **Do not allow wreck penetration.**

Performance Requirements

1. **Swim on the outside of a wreck while maintaining proper buoyancy. Identify and avoid potential hazards.**
2. **Navigate the wreck to locate the ascent point without surfacing. Use instructor/certified assistant as needed.**
3. **Maintain neutral buoyancy and body position to avoid touching the bottom and the wreck.**

RESCUE DIVER COURSE

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Rescue Diver Course, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Section One

Course Standards

Certification Requirements

Student divers meet course performance requirements and:

- Complete five knowledge development segments and exam.
- Demonstrate skills from the Self-Rescue Review either in confined or open water.
- Demonstrate skills from Rescue Exercises 1–10 in open water.
- Participate in Rescue Scenarios 1 and 2 in open water.
- Prepare an emergency assistance plan for a dive site.

Depth

For Rescue Exercise 4 — 12 metres/40 feet

For Rescue Exercise 6 and Scenario 1 — 9 metres/30 feet

Diver Prerequisites

- 12 years old

Note: 12- to 14-year-old divers may earn Junior Rescue Diver certifications

- **PADI (Junior) Adventure Diver certification – must have completed the Underwater Navigation Adventure Dive.**
- PADI Open Water Divers may participate in Knowledge Development and Rescue Exercises in confined water.
- **EFR® Primary and Secondary Care training within 24 months.** Training may be completed along with rescue diver course.

Equipment

As described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide, plus:

- **First-aid kit, oxygen unit, rescue breathing masks**
- **Floats, marker buoys, CPR mannequins, etc., as needed**

Forms

Download the most current forms from [padi.com/Pros' Site](http://padi.com/Pros'). Check with your PADI Office for region specific releases, applications or forms.

Required

Continuing Education Administrative Document (10038 or EU 10541) with Diver Medical Form (10346)

Recommended

Rescue Diver Course Training Documentation and Referral Form (10295)

Instructor Rating

Instructor

Materials

- **PADI *Rescue Diver eLearning or Manual***
- **Diving Accident Management Work Slate**
- **Log book**

Student divers must view the PADI *Rescue Diver Video*.

Ratios

As described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide.

Supervision

As described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide.

Section Two

Knowledge Development

Have student divers complete all five knowledge development segments, including successfully completing Knowledge Reviews and the Rescue Diver Exam.

For digital learners, have student divers complete any assessments that were not completed online. Administer the Rescue Diver Online Quick Review to student divers who completed all assessment online.

Have divers prepare an emergency assistance plan for the location(s) where the scenario(s) will be held.

Look for Knowledge Review and Exam Answer Keys on the Pros' Site at padi.com

Section Three

Rescue Exercises

General Considerations

Conduct all Rescue Exercises (except Exercise 9) **in open water**. You may introduce and practice them first in confined water. It's best to conduct Rescue Exercises in sequence because each exercise builds upon previously learned skills; however, to allow for flexible scheduling options, exercises may be conducted in any order. Note that Rescue Exercise 9 may be conducted at any point before Rescue Scenario 1.

Spread exercise development and scenario practice out over at least two days. Complete Rescue Exercises 1–6 before Rescue Scenario 1 and Exercises 7–10 before Rescue Scenario 2.

Remind divers to ascend no faster than 18 metres/60 feet per minute, retain the regulator in their mouth and never breathhold during any practice rescue ascents.

Performance Requirements

Self-Rescue Review

Demonstrate the correct procedures for the following self-rescue situations:

- Cramp release
- Establishing buoyancy at the surface
- Airway control
- Use of an alternate air source
- Overcoming vertigo and reestablishing sense of direction

Exercise 1 — Tired Diver

Assist a tired (rational) responsive diver at the surface, demonstrating:

- Approach
- Evaluation
- Making Contact
- Reassuring the Diver
- Assists and Transport
- Equipment Removal

Exercise 2 — Panicked Diver

Rescue a panicked (irrational) diver, demonstrating:

- Approach and Evaluation
- Making Contact
- Releases
- Approach with a quick reverse to stay out of a panicked diver's grasp

Exercise 3 — Response from shore, boat or dock (responsive diver)

Assist a responsive diver in distress, demonstrating:

- **Nonswimming assists, including reaches/extensions and throws**
- **Water entries without losing sight of the victim and paced to conserve energy**
- **Swimming assists and rescues, with and without emergency flotation equipment**
- **Tows with and without equipment removed, including underarm push, tank valve tow and modified tired-swimmer carry**
- **Exits**

Exercise 4 — Distressed Diver Underwater

1. **Correctly identify and respond to a diver simulating overexertion underwater.**
2. **Correctly identify and respond to a panicked diver making an uncontrolled ascent.**
3. **Correctly identify and provide air to, via an alternate air source, a diver simulating an out of air emergency, and make a controlled air-sharing ascent.**

Exercise 5 — Missing Diver

Quickly and efficiently search for and locate a missing diver using an underwater search pattern.

Exercise 6 — Surfacing the Unresponsive Diver

1. **Use controlled positive buoyancy as an aid to ascent.**
2. **Bring an unresponsive diver to the surface using buoyancy control of either the unresponsive diver or the rescuer.**

Exercise 7 — Unresponsive Diver at the Surface

- 1. Make contact with and check for breathing on an unresponsive diver at the surface, demonstrating:**
 - **Calling for help while establishing buoyancy and turning the diver face up.**
 - **Removing the diver's mask and regulator, opening airway and checking for breathing.**
- 2. Demonstrate inwater rescue breathing using the following methods:**
 - **Mouth-to-rescue breathing mask**
 - **Mouth-to-mouth**
 - Mouth-to-nose (optional)
 - Mouth-to-snorkel (optional)
- 3. While continuing effective rescue breathing, demonstrate equipment removal (victim and rescuer) while towing the diver toward an exit.**

Exercise 8 — Exiting the Unresponsive Diver

- 1. Remove a breathing, unresponsive diver from the water, both with and without assistance.**
- 2. Remove a nonbreathing diver from the water, both with and without assistance.**

Exercise 9 — First Aid for Pressure-Related Injuries and Oxygen Administration

- 1. Demonstrate steps and procedures for administering oxygen to a breathing, unresponsive diver with suspected decompression illness.**
- 2. Administer oxygen to a nonbreathing diver while using a rescue breathing mask for rescue breathing.**

Exercise 10 — Response from Shore/Boat to Unresponsive (nonbreathing) Diver at the Surface

Respond to a diver emergency that requires attending to a nonbreathing, unresponsive diver on the surface, demonstrating inwater rescue breathing, exiting the water and then providing CPR.

Section Four

Rescue Scenarios

General Scenario Considerations

Conduct all Rescue Scenarios in open water.

1. Make scenarios as realistic as possible, within reasonable logistical and safety requirements.
2. Adapt scenarios to accommodate the environment and class size. Have student divers carry out scenarios as teams or as individuals.
3. Use certified assistants to close gaps in the scenarios, such as role-playing bystanders, EMS operators, other divers or victims.
4. Have typical equipment (first aid and oxygen kits) available, but allow divers to set up and place equipment.
5. Repeat scenarios as necessary to build confidence, improve rescuer performance and allow everyone to play different roles.

Performance Requirements

Scenario 1 — Unresponsive Diver Underwater

Search for and locate a missing diver during an accident simulation. Demonstrate:

- 1. Interviewing the victim's buddy and drawing logical conclusions from the information presented.**
- 2. Organizing a quick and effective search (using surface and underwater search patterns).**
- 3. Searching for and locating a missing diver.**
- 4. Bringing a diver simulating unresponsiveness to the surface using controlled positive buoyancy.**

Scenario 2 — Unresponsive Diver at the Surface

Demonstrate:

- 1. Effectively responding to an unresponsive, nonbreathing diver during an accident simulation.**
- 2. Evaluation, tow, inwater rescue breathing, removing equipment, exiting and providing CPR.**

Note: Either use a CPR mannequin or simulate compressions for CPR.

MASTER SCUBA DIVER™ PROGRAM

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the Master Scuba Diver Program, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Course Standards

The Master Scuba Diver rating is the highest recreational diver rating in the PADI System, and denotes a diver with superior experience and achievement.

Certification Requirements

- **12 years old**

Note: 12–14 year old divers may earn Junior Master Scuba Diver certifications.

- **Certified as a PADI (Junior) Advanced Open Water Diver, a PADI (Junior) Rescue Diver, and certification in five PADI Specialty, Public Safety Diver or TecRec courses.**

Note: Specialty diver, Public Safety Diver or TecRec certifications must be PADI – no other certifications qualify. One PADI Freediver (not Basic) certification may credit.

- **Logged 50 dives**

Instructor Rating

Instructor

Procedures

Verify certification requirements and submit a Master Scuba Diver Application (10142) to your PADI Office.

Dedicated Master Scuba Diver Rating

Divers qualify for the Dedicated Master Scuba Diver certifications by:

- **Meeting the Master Scuba Diver age, PADI Advanced Open Water Diver and Rescue Diver prerequisite, and 50 logged dive requirement.**
- **Earning five PADI distinctive specialty certifications as part of a Dedicated Master Scuba Diver program.**
- **With their instructor, submitting a Dedicated PADI Master Scuba Diver application to their PADI Regional Headquarters.**

DIVEMASTER COURSE

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Divemaster Course, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Divers completing this course have met ISO 24801-3 Requirements for the training of recreational scuba divers Part 3: Level 3 – Dive Leader

Section One

Course Standards

Certification Requirements

Divemaster candidates meet course performance requirements and:

- Complete knowledge development segments including Knowledge Reviews in the PADI *Divemaster Manual* or through *Divemaster eLearning*, and pass the Divemaster Final Exam.
- Create an Emergency Assistance Plan for a designated dive site.
- Complete waterskills exercises.
- Complete a diver rescue assessment.
- Complete the dive skills workshop and assessment.
- Complete practical application skills.
- Complete divemaster-conducted programs workshops.
- Complete practical assessments.
- Meet the professionalism criteria.

At time of certification, verify the candidate has:

- Logged at least 60 scuba dives including experience in night diving, deep diving and underwater navigation.
- Completed EFR Primary and Secondary Care training within 24 months.
- Read and agreed to the PADI Membership and License Agreements.

Diver Prerequisites

- **Certified as a PADI Advanced Open Water Diver and PADI Rescue Diver**
- **18 years old**
- **Logged 40 scuba dives**
- **Completed EFR Primary and Secondary Care training within 24 months**
- **Medically evaluated and cleared for diving by a physician within 12 months**

Equipment

As described for Instructors and Certified Assistants in the General Standards and Procedures Guide.

Forms

Download the most current forms from padi.com/Pros' Site. Check with your PADI Office for region specific releases, applications or forms.

Required

Divemaster Application (10144)

Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency Acknowledgment Form – General Training (10072) and Standard Safe Diving Practices Statement of Understanding (10060); or PADI Continuing Education Administrative Document (10038)

Diver Medical Form (10346)

Recommended

Divemaster Candidate Information and Evaluation Form (10147)

Instructor Rating

Instructor

Materials

Required

- **PADI *Divemaster Manual* or *Divemaster eLearning***
- **PADI *Instructor Manual***
- **RDP — Table and eRDP_{ML} including associated Instructions for Use booklets**
- ***The Encyclopedia of Recreational Diving***
- **Divemaster Slates**
- **Log book**

Divemaster candidates must view the PADI *Divemaster Video*.

Recommended

- PADI's *Guide to Teaching*
- *Diving Knowledge Workbook* or *Dive Theory eLearning*
- PADI Skill Practice and Dive Planning Slate

Ratio

8:1

Sequence

- 1. Knowledge Development Topic 1 — The Role and Characteristics of a PADI Divemaster precedes all water sessions: exercises, workshops, assessments and practical application.**

Note: This instructor-delivered presentation is required even if the candidate completes *Divemaster eLearning*.

- 2. Knowledge Development Topics 2 and 3 — Supervising Certified Divers and Assisting with Student Divers precedes all Practical Assessments.**
3. Knowledge Development Topic 5 — Divemaster-Conducted Programs should precede Divemaster-Conducted Programs Workshops.

Supervision

As described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide.

See General Standards and Procedures for supervision requirements specific to Waterskills Assessment and Development.

Section Two

Knowledge Development

Conduct Knowledge Development Topic 1 — Role and Characteristics of a PADI Divemaster.

Have candidates complete all knowledge development topics, including successfully completing all Knowledge Reviews. Candidates may study independently using the PADI *Divemaster Manual* and *Video* or through *Divemaster eLearning*. Knowledge development may include a combination of independent study, presentations and discussions.

For digital learners, have candidates complete any assessments that were not completed online. Administer the Divemaster Quick Review to candidates who completed all assessment online.

If administering the PADI Divemaster Final Exam in person, candidates may use an RDP Table and eRDPML, a calculator and the PADI *Instructor Manual* for reference. Candidates who have completed *Dive Theory eLearning* within 12 months (eRecord is proof) may receive credit for Part 2 of the exam.

Have candidates prepare an emergency assistance plan complete with information needed to manage a diving accident at that site.

Look for Knowledge Review and Exam Answer Keys on the Pros' Site at padi.com.

Section Three

Waterskills Development

See General Standards and Procedures for supervision requirements specific to Waterskills Assessment and Development.

Waterskills Exercises

Have candidates complete five waterskills exercises, earning a combined exercise score of at least 15. Candidates must score at least a 3 in the equipment exchange; there is no passing score for any other single exercise.

Exercise 1: 400 Metre/Yard Swim

Swim 400 metres/yards nonstop, without swimming aids and using any stroke or combination of strokes.

400 metres Time	Score	400 yards Time
under 6:30 min	5	under 6 min
6:30 to 8:40 min	4	6 to 8 min
8:40 to 11 min	3	8 to 10 min
11 to 13 min	2	10 to 12 min
more than 13 min	1	more than 12 min
stopped	incomplete	stopped

Exercise 2: 15-minute Tread

Tread water, drown-proof, bob or float using no aids and wearing only a swimsuit for 15 minutes, with hands (not arms) out of the water during the last two minutes.

Exceptions: A candidate with a physical impairment that makes it difficult/impossible to hold hands out of the water is exempted from that portion of the exercise with no effect on the score.

Criteria	Score
Performed satisfactorily	5
Stayed afloat, but hands not out of water the entire two minutes	3
Used side/bottom for momentary support no more than twice	1
Used side/bottom for support more than twice	incomplete

Exercise 3: 800 Metre/Yard Swim

Swim 800 metres/yards face down, using mask, snorkel and fins, nonstop, without flotation aids and without using arms to swim.

Exceptions: A candidate with leg-use limitations, who normally arm-swims, may use arms.

800 metres Time	Score	800 yards Time
under 14 min	5	under 13 min
14 to 16:30 min	4	13 to 15 min
16:30 to 18:30 min	3	15 to 17 min
18:30 to 21 min	2	17 to 19 min
more than 21 min	1	more than 19 min
stopped	incomplete	stopped

Exercise 4: 100 Metre/Yard Inert Diver Tow

Tow (or push) a diver for 100 metres/yards nonstop, at the surface, without assistance – both divers equipped in full scuba equipment.

100 metres Time	Score	100 yards Time
under 2:10 min	5	under 2 min
2:10 to 3:15 min	4	2 to 3 min
3:15 to 4:20 min	3	3 to 4 min
4:20 to 5:30 min	2	4 to 5 min
more than 5:30 min	1	more than 5 min
stopped	incomplete	stopped

Exercise 5: Equipment Exchange

In confined water, demonstrate the ability to effectively respond to an unusual circumstance underwater by exchanging all scuba equipment (except exposure suits and weight belts) with a buddy while neutrally buoyant earning a minimum score of 3. During the exchange, when divers switch scuba kits, they should go to and breathe from their buddy's alternate air source, not the primary second stage. Instead of exchanging masks, divers remove and replace their own masks.

Conduct:

- Give buddy teams less than five minutes to discuss the exercise.
- Have candidates complete the exercise in water too deep in which to stand, instructing them to avoid touching the bottom or breaking the surface.
- Do not assign problems – allow candidates to resolve any naturally-occurring ones.

Score	Criteria
5	Task performed in a well-thought-out, efficient and purposeful manner with no sign of problems; very low anxiety level. Looks routine, easy and neither diver touched the bottom or the surface.
4	Task performed competently with a relatively low anxiety level. Challenges encountered were easily and efficiently handled. Neither diver touched the bottom or the surface.
3	Complete exchange occurred while neutrally buoyant. However, numerous challenges were encountered that delayed the speed and efficiency of the performance. This score is also appropriate for a diver overly dependent on another.
2	Significant problems demonstrated, and exchange completed only after one or both team members surfaced once.
1	Inability to complete the exchange; or exchange completed with one or both divers surfacing more than once.

Diver Rescue

Respond to an unresponsive, nonbreathing diver, including these steps:

- **Enter the water, locate and surface a submerged diver who is about 25 metres/yards away.**
- **Turn the diver face up and establish buoyancy.**
- **Remove the diver's mask and regulator, open the airway and check for breathing.**
- **Call for help.**
- **Give two initial rescue breaths, and continue with an effective rescue breath every five seconds with no or very few interruptions.**

- **Tow the diver to safety while protecting the airway, continuing rescue breathing.**
- **Remove both sets of equipment** (equipment handlers allowed).
- **Exit the water with the diver.** (Assistance allowed only when physical challenges or the environment make it necessary.)

Conduct: Develop and assess a divemaster candidate’s rescue skills in either confined water or open water.

Dive Skills Workshop

Demonstrate all scuba and advanced snorkeling skills, scoring at least a 3 on each skill, and scoring at least 82 points total, with at least one underwater skill to a 5.

Conduct:

- Describe for candidates the characteristics of a demonstration-quality skill, and explain that the focus is on exaggerating the critical attributes.
- Demonstrate each skill, and have candidates practice.
- After practice, have candidates perform each skill for a score. Remediate as necessary until candidates meet the performance requirement.

Score	Criteria
5	Exercise performed correctly, slowly and with exaggerated movement – appeared easy.
4	Exercise performed correctly, and slowly enough to adequately exhibit or illustrate details of skill.
3	Exercise performed correctly, though too quickly to adequately exhibit or illustrate details of the skill
2	Exercise performed with significant difficulty or error.
1	Candidate unable to perform exercise.

Note: These criteria are used to score skill evaluations throughout all levels of PADI leadership training.

Dive Skills

1. Equipment assembly, adjustment, preparation, donning and disassembly
2. Pre-dive safety check (BWRAF)
3. Deep-water entry
4. Buoyancy check at surface
5. Snorkel-regulator/regulator-snorkel exchange
6. Five-point descent, using buoyancy control to stop descent without contacting the bottom
7. Regulator recovery and clearing*
8. Mask removal, replacement and clearing*
9. Air depletion exercise and alternate air source use (stationary)
10. Alternate air source-assisted ascent
11. Free flowing regulator breathing
12. Neutral buoyancy, rise and fall – using low pressure inflation
13. Five-point ascent
14. Controlled Emergency Swimming Ascent
15. Orally inflate BCD to hover for at least 60 seconds
16. Underwater swim without a mask
17. Remove and replace weight system underwater
18. Remove and replace scuba unit underwater
19. Remove and replace scuba unit on the surface
20. Remove and replace weight system on the surface
21. Head-first surface dive, snorkel out of mouth
22. Disconnect low-pressure inflator
23. Re-secure a loose cylinder band
24. Perform an emergency weight drop

* To earn a 5, diver must demonstrate skill while neutrally buoyant.

Section Four

Practical Application

Have divemaster candidates successfully complete the following practical skills, workshops and practical assessments. Combine the skills with workshops and practical assessments as appropriate.

Practical Skills

Skill 1 — Dive Site Setup and Management

Have divemaster candidates in buddy teams or individually set up a dive site and manage pre-dive preparation, including:

- **Choosing a location appropriate for divers to assemble equipment.**
- **Preparing emergency equipment, such as a first-aid kit and oxygen unit.**
- **Greeting divers as they arrive at the site/boat and providing direction.** For example – where to place equipment, location of nearest facilities, etc.
- **Organizing a dive roster and reviewing check in and check out procedures with divers.**
- **Preparing and setting a float/dive flag if diving from shore, or ensuring the descent line and dive flag are ready, as appropriate, when diving from a boat.**
- **Choosing an appropriate vantage point from which to monitor the dive.**
- **Being accessible to answer diver questions and prepared to assist divers both before and after the dive.**

Skill 2 — Mapping Project

Have divemaster candidates in buddy teams survey an open water dive site and create a detailed map of the site showing (as applicable to the site) underwater relief, important points of interest, any relevant environmental notes, recommended entry/exit areas, local facilities, and potential hazards.

Skill 3 — Dive Briefing

Have each divemaster candidate conduct a dive briefing for a familiar dive site covering all 10 points as listed below and on the Divemaster Slates. Encourage candidates to use their Mapping Project dive site map, if possible.

1. Dive site name
2. Site description
3. Your role and how divers can recognize you underwater, if appropriate
4. Entry and exit techniques
5. Dive procedures
6. Emergency procedures
7. Signal review specific to the dive
8. Roster and buddy check
9. Environmental orientation
10. Pre-dive safety check

Skill 4 — Search and Recovery Scenario

Set up various search and recovery scenarios that allow divemaster candidates to complete the following:

- Demonstrate a methodical search of an area to find a small submerged object.
- Demonstrate a methodical search of an area to find a submerged object not more than 11 kilograms/ 25 pounds negatively buoyant.

- Tie the following knots correctly underwater: the bowline, two half-hitches and a sheet bend.
- Demonstrate how to safely rig and bring to the surface an object not more than 11 kilograms/ 25 pounds negatively buoyant using an appropriate lifting device.

Skill 5 — Deep Dive Scenario

Conduct a deep dive in which each divemaster candidate completes the following:

- With a buddy before the dive, prepare emergency breathing equipment, and position it at the safety stop depth.
- Descend using a reference line, wall or sloping bottom as a visual guide only, while staying with a buddy and controlling the descent rate.
- Navigate with a compass at least 20 kick cycles away from and back to the reference line or designated spot.
- Use a depth gauge and timing device, or a dive computer to monitor an ascent rate no faster than 18 metres/60 feet per minute while using a reference line, wall or sloping bottom as a visual guide only.
- Perform a 3-minute safety stop at 5 metres/15 feet before surfacing without holding on to a reference line for positioning.

Divemaster-Conducted Programs Workshops

Workshop 1: ReActivate Program

- Access ReActivate program standards in the PADI *Instructor Manual*.
- State ReActivate knowledge assessment options.
- Demonstrate the prescriptive ReActivate method for determining skills to practice.

- **Recognize and correct problems during skill practice.**

Conduct:

- Review ReActivate standards with candidates in the PADI *Instructor Manual*, and discuss knowledge assessment options.
- Conduct a role-model ReActivate waterskills session either in confined or open water – demonstrate how to organize participants and equipment; provide an area orientation, etc.
- Have candidates take turns interviewing participants and prescriptively deciding skills to practice while other candidates/staff act as participants. Ask participants to request skills to practice or imply a need to review certain skills based on period of inactivity or past dive experiences.
- During skill practice, randomly assign problems to participants for the candidate to catch and correct. Remediate demonstrations and problem solving as necessary.
- Review procedures for processing certification cards with ReActivate dates through PADI Online Processing Center.

Workshop 2: Advanced Snorkeler (Skin Diver) Course and Snorkeling Supervision (conduct in either confined water or open water)

- **Give the Advanced Snorkeler course briefing or a snorkeling tour briefing.**
- **Conduct a Advanced Snorkeler course confined water or open water dive; or lead a snorkel tour, demonstrating control and supervision.**
- **Recognize and correct problems during the dive or snorkel tour.**

Conduct:

- Discuss the difference between a scuba dive briefing and a snorkel tour briefing.

- Have each candidate conduct a briefing based on a scenario you assign. For example, 20 snorkelers on a tropical reef from a large boat; four advanced snorkelers in temperate water entering off the beach through mild surf; two families with children snorkeling in a calm lagoon; four Advanced Snorkeler (Skin Diver) course students learning performance requirements in the pool, etc.
- Have candidates take turns leading a short tour or practicing advanced snorkeling skills while other candidates/staff act as participants. Randomly assign problems to participants for candidates to catch and correct. Remediate supervision techniques and problem solving as necessary.

Workshop 3: Discover Scuba Diving Program in Confined Water

- **Access Discover Scuba Diving program standards in the PADI *Instructor Manual*, and explain a divemaster's role as an assistant during a confined water experience.**
- **Locate the Discover Scuba Diving Leader Internship Requirements in the PADI *Instructor Manual*, and explain how a divemaster qualifies as a Discover Scuba Diving Leader.**
- **Demonstrate proper positioning relative to the participants as directed by the instructor.**
- **Recognize and correct problems during the experience.**

Conduct:

- Review Discover Scuba Diving standards with candidates and discuss what a divemaster can do as a certified assistant during a confined water experience.
- Review Discover Scuba Diving Leader Internship Requirements with candidates and discuss how candidates can qualify as a Discover Scuba Diving Leader after certification as a divemaster.

Note: Only certified PADI Divemasters qualify to participate in DSD Leader Internship training – divemaster candidates do not qualify.

- Conduct a role-model confined water session. Have candidates take turns acting as a certified assistant while other candidates/staff act as participants. Randomly assign problems to participants for candidates to catch and correct. Remediate assistant positioning, supervision and problem solving as necessary.

Workshop 4: Discover Scuba Diving Program — Additional Open Water Dive

- **State the ratio and supervision requirements for an additional dive (subsequent to an initial dive with an instructor) for Discover Scuba Diving participants conducted by a PADI Divemaster.**
- **Give a dive briefing appropriate for Discover Scuba Diving participants for an additional open water dive.**
- **Lead the dive, demonstrating proper control and required supervision.**
- **Recognize and correct problems during the dive.**

Conduct:

- Review Discover Scuba Diving standards with candidates relative to ratios and supervision during a divemaster-led additional open water dive.
- Have candidates conduct a dive briefing.
- Have candidates take turns leading the dive while other candidates/staff act as participants. Randomly assign problems to participants for candidates to catch and correct. Remediate supervision techniques and problem solving as necessary.

Workshop 5: Discover Local Diving in Open Water

- **Access Discover Local Diving program standards in the *PADI Instructor Manual*.**

- **Assess dive site conditions, and plan the dive.**
- **Give a Discover Local Diving briefing.**
- **Lead a dive, demonstrating control and supervision.**
- **Recognize and correct problems during the dive.**
- **Demonstrate how to deploy a surface marker.**

Conduct:

- Review Discover Local Diving standards with candidates.
- Ask candidates to evaluate dive conditions and explain observations.
- Have candidates create a dive plan and conduct a dive briefing based on a scenario you assign. For example, divers who just completed ReActivate after not diving for several years; divers diving in cold water in a kelp forest for the first time; divers making their first boat dive; divers using a surface marker buoy (SMB) for the first time per local protocol, etc.
- Have candidates take turns leading the dive while other candidates/staff act as participants. Randomly assign problems to participants for candidates to catch and correct. Remediate supervision techniques and problem solving as necessary.
- Have candidates demonstrate how to deploy one or more types of surface markers used in the region such as an SMB, delayed surface marker buoy (DSMB) or inflatable signal tube.

Practical Assessment

Have divemaster candidates work with student divers during Practical Assessments 1–3. If actual student divers are not available, role playing is acceptable. Have at least four people to role-play during each assessment. Role players can be other divemaster candidates, instructional staff or certified divers.

Have divemaster candidates work with at least four certified divers during Practical Assessment 4.

Repeat assessments as necessary until divemaster candidates score at least a 3 on each performance requirement based on these criteria.

Score	Criteria
5	Independently accomplished the objective without error. Anticipated instructor and diver needs.
4	Accomplished the objective without error and without significant help from instructor or staff.
3	Accomplished the objective adequately, with a few insignificant errors. Instructor correction and intervention limited to brief reminders or suggestions.
2	Demonstrated rudimentary understanding of tasks required to meet objective. Made significant errors or omissions. Instructor correction and intervention was required for a competent result.
1	Made many or substantial errors and omissions in attempting to meet objective; or objective not met.

Do not use divemaster candidates to increase student diver to instructor ratios. However, divemaster candidates do not count as student divers toward maximum student diver-to-instructor ratios. **Directly supervise candidates who are working with student divers. Fill in any gaps or make any corrections necessary to assure that student divers receive complete and accurate training.**

Practical Assessment 1 — Open Water Diver Students in Confined Water

- 1. Organize pre-dive equipment setup by student divers.**
- 2. Coordinate student diver flow during training.**

3. Supervise student divers not receiving the immediate attention of the instructor during training.
4. Help a student diver overcome a learning difficulty.
5. Respond to, or prevent, student diver problems as they occur.
6. Demonstrate a skill for student divers.

Practical Assessment 2 — Open Water Diver Students in Open Water

1. Assess an open water training site; report to the instructor recommendations as to site suitability for training entry-level divers.
2. Organize pre-dive equipment setup by student divers.
3. Assist in the preparation of the site.
4. Coordinate student diver flow during training.
5. Supervise student divers not receiving the immediate attention of the instructor during training.
6. Respond to, or prevent, student diver problems as they occur.
7. Lead student divers on an underwater tour (ratio 2:1).

Practical Assessment 3 — Continuing Education Student Divers in Open Water

1. Coordinate student diver flow during training.
2. Escort continuing education student divers during a training dive that allows indirect instructor supervision; report performance and learning difficulties to instructor.
3. Help a continuing education student diver overcome a learning difficulty.
4. Respond to, or prevent, student diver problems as they occur.

Practical Assessment 4 — Certified Divers in Open Water

1. **Conduct environmental and diver assessments, taking appropriate supervisory steps based on the assessments.**
2. **Give a pre-dive briefing appropriate to the dive site.**
3. **Account for buddy teams entering and leaving the water.**
4. **Respond to, or prevent diver problems appropriately.**

Professionalism

Verify that divemaster candidates score at least a 3 in each category below by the end of Practical Application.

1. **Level of active, positive participation in the training sessions**
2. **Ability to serve as a mentor to student divers**
3. **Willingness to follow directions**
4. **Positive attitude and demeanor toward student divers, certified divers and staff**
5. **Positive attitude and practice toward caring for the environment**
6. **General understanding of a divemaster's role**
7. **Appearance**

Score	Criteria
5	Excellent
4	Above average
3	Acceptable
2	Below average
1	Unacceptable

JUNIOR DIVEMASTER COURSE

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Junior Divemaster Course, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Course Standards

The PADI Junior Divemaster course is a subset of the PADI Divemaster course. The course is designed to engage and motivate interested youth, ages 15–17, until they are old enough to become PADI Divemasters. PADI Junior Divemaster candidates complete portions of the Divemaster course with some modifications to performance requirements. Certified Junior Divemasters are not PADI Members, and may not act as certified assistants or supervise divers. They can, however, assist PADI Professionals specifically as described in Junior Divemaster Activities.

All Divemaster course standards apply, with the following modifications and exceptions.

Certification Requirements

- **Complete PADI *Divemaster eLearning*, including all knowledge development segments and Knowledge Reviews.**
- **Successfully complete the PADI Junior Divemaster Exam by scoring at least 75 percent, with remediation to 100 percent mastery.**
- **Create an Emergency Assistance Plan for a designated dive site.**
- **Complete Section Three Waterskills Development exercises 1–4:**

Note: See General Standards and Procedures for supervision requirements specific to Waterskills Assessments and Development.

- **400-Metre/Yard Swim – nonstop**
- **15-minute Tread – nonstop**
- **800 Metre/Yard Mask/Snorkel/Fin Swim – nonstop**
- **100 Metre/Yard Inert Diver Tow – nonstop**
- **Complete the Divemaster Diver Rescue assessment.**
- **Complete the dive skills workshop and assessment.**

- **Complete Practical Application skills as follows:**
 - **Skill 1 — Dive Site Set Up and Management –** Have the junior divemaster candidate help a PADI Professional set up a dive site and manage pre-dive preparation, including all listed steps.
 - **Skill 2 — Mapping Project –** Under indirect supervision and with the help of a PADI Professional, have the junior divemaster candidate create a detailed map of a site showing all listed features.
 - **Skill 3 — Dive Briefing –** Only to the instructor, have the junior divemaster candidate conduct a dive briefing for a familiar dive site covering all 10 points as listed on the Divemaster Slates.
 - **Skill 4 — Search and Recovery Scenario –** Have the junior divemaster candidate complete the various search and recovery scenarios and knot tying, and under direct supervision, demonstrate how to safely rig and bring to the surface an object not more than 11 kilograms/25 pounds negatively buoyant using an appropriate lifting device.
- **Meet the professionalism criteria.**

At time of certification, verify the candidate has:

- **Logged at least 40 scuba dives including experience in night diving, deep diving and underwater navigation.**
- **Completed Emergency First Response Primary and Secondary Care training (or qualifying training) within the last 24 months.** Training may be completed during the Junior Divemaster course. The PADI Emergency Oxygen Provider specialty is recommended.

Diver Prerequisites

- Certified as a PADI Advanced Open Water Diver and PADI Rescue Diver
- 15 years old
- Logged 20 scuba dives

Forms

Required

Continuing Education Administrative Document (10038 or EU 10541) with Diver Medical Form (10346)

Recommended

Junior Divemaster Course Record and Referral Form

When a junior divemaster student completes all certification requirements, the certifying instructor submits a PIC (envelope or online) to a PADI Regional Headquarters.

Instructor Rating

Instructor who has submitted a Junior Divemaster Instructor Application and received approval from a PADI Regional Headquarters

Junior Divemaster Activities

Junior Divemasters are expected to exhibit role model behavior and responsible dive practices in all their diving activities.

Junior Divemasters are qualified to:

1. Help/shadow a PADI Professional with:
 - Dive site set up and management
 - Beach master duties
 - Dive class set up and organization

- Skills demonstration with a PADI Professional when the skill requires a buddy (such as alternate air source use)
 - Dive site briefing under the direct supervision of a PADI Professional
2. Give “benefits of learning to dive,” environmental and promotional presentations to various groups in the community, including, dive centers and resorts

Note: Although junior divemasters study and prepare for certification by using PADI Divemaster materials, they are not qualified to function as a certified assistants. **At no time may a PADI Junior Divemaster be placed in a supervisory situation.**

Divemaster Upgrade Procedures

Junior Divemasters are well prepared to enroll in a PADI Divemaster course once they reach age 18. **You may credit Junior Divemasters for the following segments, if training occurred within 36 months of Divemaster course enrollment:**

- **Emergency Assistance Plan**
- **Skill 2 – Mapping Project**
- **Skill 4 – Search and Recovery Scenario**

Other than these specific course segments, certified Junior Divemasters must complete the entire divemaster course and meet all course requirements to become a PADI Divemaster. Because Junior Divemasters are familiar with and have previously mastered many of the divemaster course requirements, the time spent training may be reduced.

DISCOVER SCUBA® DIVING PROGRAM

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Discover Scuba Diving Program, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Participants completing this program have met ISO 11121 Requirements for introductory programs to scuba diving

Section One

Program Standards

Depth

Confined Water — **6 metres/20 feet.**

Open Water — **12 metres/40 feet.**

Diver Prerequisites

10 years old

Equipment

Mask, fins, scuba cylinder, buoyancy control device with low-pressure inflator, regulator and submersible pressure gauge

Instructor Rating

Confined Water — **Divemaster who is a Discover Scuba Diving (DSD®) Leader**

Note: See Professional Membership Guide for Discover Scuba Diving Leader training requirements.

Open Water — **Instructor**

Note: A PADI Instructor must conduct the confined water dive for participants who will participate in the Discover Scuba Diving optional open water dive.

Materials

Required

Participant — PADI *Discover Scuba Diving Participant Guide* or *Discover Scuba Diving eLearning*

Instructor or DSD Leader conducts knowledge development/review for eLearners, or briefing using the *Discover Scuba Diving Participant Guide* or Discover Scuba Diving Cue Card or Flip Chart

Recommended

PADI *Discover Scuba Diving Video*

Participant Registration

Register Discover Scuba Diving participants with your PADI Office within seven days of their experience. Include the participant's complete contact information for quality management purposes.

Register eLearners via the DSD Participant Management page, or use the registration portion of the *Discover Scuba Diving Participant Guide*, register online or use the Discover Scuba Diving Program Registration Form (10119).

Ratios

You must apply continuous and sound judgment before, during and after the dive. It's your professional responsibility to conduct a risk assessment by evaluating variables such as water conditions, temperature, visibility, water movement, entries and exits, ability of participants, certified assistants available, your and your assistant's personal limitations, etc., to determine what ratio will fit the situation – reducing the ratio from the maximum if needed. Take into account changing variables and your ability to directly supervise and observe participants. Reassess during the dive.

Participant-to-Instructor

PADI Member	Pool	Confined Open Water	Open Water	Additional OW Dive**
Instructor	8:1	4:1*	4:1*	4:1*
Assistant Instructor	8:1	4:1*	—	2:1
DSD Leader	4:1	2:1	—	2:1
Divemaster	—	—	—	2:1

* May add a maximum of two participants with certified assistant.

** After participants have completed an initial open water dive with an instructor.

If certified divers join Discover Scuba Diving participants, count the certified divers in the ratio and stay within the Discover Scuba Diving participant-to-instructor ratio.

Supervision

Do not leave participants unattended, either at the surface or underwater.

- Position yourself so that you or a certified assistant can make immediate physical contact with, adjust buoyancy for, and render assistance to, participants.
- Continually observe participants with only the brief, periodic interruptions needed to lead the dive and to provide assistance to individual divers.
- Do not engage in any other activities, such as taking photographs or video, while supervising participants.

Divemasters who are Discover Scuba Diving Leaders and assistant instructors may only conduct the program in a pool or confined open water.

Note: See Professional Membership Guide for Discover Scuba Diving Leader training requirements.

An instructor directly supervises the initial open water dive. Within 14 days of completing an entire Discover Scuba Diving experience, participants can make additional open water dives directly supervised by a certified assistant or instructor. Instructors indirectly supervise any additional dives conducted by a certified assistant.

If more than 14 days passes, or a participant wants to dive with a different PADI Instructor, Dive Center or Resort who did not conduct the original program, the participant must complete the entire DSD experience before making an open water dive.

Section Two

Knowledge Development

For participants using *Discover Scuba Diving eLearning*, verify completion and conduct a safety concept and skills review.

For participants using the *Discover Scuba Diving Participant Guide*, conduct a knowledge development session or briefing that covers:

- Breathing rules and equalization techniques
- Equipment purpose and use
- Hand signals
- Regulator and mask clearing techniques
- Respect for aquatic life (if appropriate)
- Importance of watching and staying close to instructor
- Limitations of the program and value of further training

Have participants complete and sign the *Discover Scuba Diving Participant Guide*, including the Discover Scuba Diving Knowledge and Safety Review.

Section Three

Confined Water

- **Conduct the briefing** (see Section Two – Knowledge Development).
- **Help participants with their equipment.**
- **For a pool experience, have participants practice BCD inflation and deflation at the surface in shallow water.**

- **For confined open water, have participants complete all Skill Performance Requirements.**
- **Supervise participants as they swim around underwater in shallow water.** When comfortable, take participants to deeper water as appropriate while monitoring comfort and air consumption.
- **Conduct a debriefing and encourage participants to move on to a PADI certification course.**

Skill Performance Requirements

Have participants complete the following skills in shallow water:

Exception: Only BCD inflation/deflation required for pool-only experience.

- **Breathing underwater**
- **Regulator clearing**
- **Regulator recovery**
- **Mask clearing**
- **Equalization techniques**
- **Inflate and deflate a BCD at the surface**

If participants will go on an open water dive, and shallow water for skills practice is inaccessible, an instructor conducts the skills session from a boat, dock or other surface support station by using a descent line, horizontal bar or platform that is within 2 metres/6 feet of the surface. The ratio is 1:1 when using the descent line option.

Section Four

Open Water (optional)

An instructor:

- **Conducts Section Two – Knowledge Development.**
- **Conducts the Skill Performance Requirements (see Section Three – Confined Water).**
- **Guides participants on a tour of the dive site while monitoring comfort and air consumption.**

BUBBLEMAKER PROGRAM

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Bubblemaker Program, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Program Standards

Depth

Confined Water — **2 metres/6 feet**

Diver Prerequisites

8 years old

Equipment

Mask, fins, scuba cylinder, buoyancy control device with low-pressure inflator, regulator and submersible pressure gauge

Instructor Rating

Assistant Instructor

Materials

PADI Bubblemaker Statement (10268) signed by participant and parent/guardian, as appropriate

Recognition

After the experience, recognize participants with a Bubblemaker certificate and card. Complete participant Bubblemaker Logbooks. Give participants Bubblemaker emblems and decals.

Ratios — Participant to Instructor

PADI Member	Pool	Confined Open Water
Assistant Instructor	4:1	4:1
Instructor	6:1	4:1*

* May add a maximum of two participants with a certified assistant.

Note: Due to shallow depth limit, confined open water restrictions for 10–11 year olds do not apply.

Supervision

Direct Supervision — **Do not leave participants unattended, either at the surface or underwater.**

Confined Water

General Considerations

- **Briefing** — Explain how to use equipment, how to equalize, how to clear a regulator and mask, and overview breathing rules.
- **Take participant underwater in water shallow enough in which to stand.**
- **Help participants with their equipment and supervise them in the water.**
- **Debriefing** — Explain the program's limitations and the need for additional training to dive unsupervised.

PADI SEAL TEAM™ PROGRAM

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Seal Team Program, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Section One

Program Standards

Completion Requirements

For PADI Seal Team membership, participants complete AquaMissions 1–5.

For PADI Master Seal Team membership, PADI Seal Team members complete an additional 10 Specialty AquaMissions and independently assemble and disassemble equipment.

Depth

For AquaMission 1 — 2 metres/6 feet

After AquaMission 1 — 4 metres/12 feet

Diver Prerequisites

8 years old

Equipment

Mask, fins, snorkel, scuba cylinder, buoyancy control device with low-pressure inflator, regulator, alternate air source and submersible pressure gauge.

Exposure protection and weights as appropriate.

For the AquaMission Night Dive, each participant needs an underwater light. A backup underwater light and marker/chemical light is recommended.

Instructor Rating

Assistant Instructor

Exception: Divemasters may conduct the AquaMission: Skin Diver Specialist.

Materials

- PADI Seal Team *AquaMission and Log Book*, and decals
- PADI Seal Team wall certificate and membership card application
- PADI Seal Team Statement (10264) signed by participant and parent/guardian, as appropriate

Participants must view the *PADI Seal Team Video*.

Participant Recognition and Registration

After each AquaMission, place appropriate AquaMission decal in participant's log book and sign and date log page.

Register participants with your PADI Office by submitting a PADI Seal Team or Master Seal Team membership application, including participants' complete contact information for quality management purposes.

Ratios — Participant to Instructor

PADI Member	Depth/Activity	Ratio
Assistant Instructor	Shallower than 2m/6ft	4:1
Instructor	Shallower than 2m/6ft	6:1*
Assistant Instructor/ Instructor	2–4m / 6–12ft	2:1*
Divemaster/ Assistant Instructor/ Instructor	AquaMission: Skin Diver Specialist	16:1

* May add a maximum of two participants with a certified assistant

Sequence

Conduct AquaMissions 1–5 in order.

Supervision

Direct Supervision — **Do not leave participants unattended, either at the surface or underwater.**

Section Two

Knowledge Development

Brief participants for each AquaMission using either the PADI Seal Team Flip Chart or the PADI Seal Team *AquaMission and Log Book*.

Have participants complete the appropriate challenge in their PADI Seal Team *AquaMission and Log Book* either before or after the pool dive.

Section Three

Confined Water

General Confined Water Considerations

- Conduct AquaMissions only in a swimming pool.
- Have participants practice skills in shallow water before moving to deeper water during AquaMission 2, 3 and 4.

Look for AquaMission Game suggestions on the Pros' Site of padi.com

AquaMission 1

Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. Make a shallow water entry.
2. Put on and adjust equipment with assistance.

Underwater:

3. Breathe normally, without breath-holding.
4. Control depth and direction while swimming.
5. Equalize ears and mask.

6. Monitor air supply and signal whether the air supply is adequate or low.
7. Communicate using hand signals.
8. Demonstrate a proper ascent.

AquaMission 2

Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. Make a shallow water entry.
2. Put on and adjust equipment.

Underwater:

3. Clear a regulator using the purge button and resume breathing from it.
4. Equalize ears and mask.
5. Communicate using hand signals.
6. Demonstrate a proper ascent.

AquaMission 3

Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. Make a shallow water entry.
2. Put on and adjust equipment.
3. Inflate and deflate BCD using low-pressure inflator.

Underwater:

4. Clear a partially flooded mask.
5. Breathe for at least 30 seconds from an alternate air source supplied by the instructor.
6. Communicate using hand signals
7. Demonstrate a proper ascent.

AquaMission 4

Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. **Make a shallow water entry.**
2. **Put on and adjust equipment.**

Underwater:

3. **Recover a regulator from behind the shoulder.**
4. **Clear a regulator using exhalation and resume breathing from it.**
5. **Use the low-pressure inflator to become neutrally buoyant. Gently rise and fall in a controlled manner, during inhalation and exhalation.**
6. **Hover without kicking or sculling.**
7. **Demonstrate a proper ascent.**

AquaMission 5

Performance Requirements

At the surface:

1. **Blast-clear a snorkel.**
2. **Exchange snorkel for regulator and regulator for snorkel repeatedly without lifting the face from the water.**
3. **Swim while wearing scuba and breathing through a snorkel.**
4. **Deflate the BCD, then orally inflate it until positively buoyant.**

Skill circuit:

5. **Shallow water entry.**

6. Snorkel-to-regulator exchange, swim to descent point.
7. Deflate BCD.
8. Descend.
9. Equalize ears.
10. Breathe normally and monitor air while swimming.
11. Clear partially flooded mask.
12. Breathe from an alternate air source supplied by the instructor.
13. Communicate using hand signals.
14. Recover a regulator from behind the shoulder.
15. Clear regulator using purge and exhalation methods.
16. Use the low-pressure inflator to become neutrally buoyant. Gently rise and fall in a controlled manner, during inhalation and exhalation.
17. Hover.
18. Ascend.
19. Inflate BCD at the surface.

AquaMission Creature ID Specialist

1. Identify at least one aquatic creature by name.
2. Identify at least one aquatic creature using a hand signal.

AquaMission Environmental Specialist

1. Demonstrate a feet-high, head-low search position used in underwater cleanups.
2. Perform a basic search pattern used in underwater cleanups.

AquaMission Inner Space Specialist

1. Use the low-pressure inflator to become neutrally buoyant. Gently rise and fall in a controlled manner, during inhalation and exhalation.
2. Hover without kicking or sculling.

AquaMission Navigation Specialist

1. Demonstrate how to set a compass heading.
2. Demonstrate how to position a compass while diving.
3. Demonstrate how to estimate distance underwater using kick strokes.

AquaMission Night Specialist

1. Demonstrate how to use a dive light.

AquaMission Safety Specialist

1. Demonstrate a pre-dive safety check with a buddy.
2. Demonstrate a cramp removal on self and buddy.
3. Throw a rescue line or float.
4. Establish buoyancy on the surface for both self and buddy.
5. Tow another diver.

AquaMission Search and Recovery Specialist

1. Use an underwater search pattern to find lost objects.
2. Lift a small object using a lift bag.

AquaMission Skin Diver Specialist

1. Snorkel swim at the surface without using hands.
2. Control the airway while breathing through a snorkel.

3. Clear a snorkel using the blast method.
4. Clear a partially flooded mask while snorkeling on the surface.

AquaMission Snapshot Specialist

1. Use an underwater camera using basic underwater photo composition principles.

AquaMission Wreck Specialist

1. Demonstrate buoyancy control.
2. Measure a submerged simulated wreck and record measurements on a slate.

ReACTIVATE® PROGRAM

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI ReActivate Program, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Section One

Program Standards

Completion Requirements

To receive an eCard with ReActivate on it, certified divers:

- Complete ReActivate knowledge review.
- Complete ReActivate waterskills dive.

Diver Prerequisites

- 10 years old
- Diver Certification – meet one of the following:
 - PADI (Junior) Scuba Diver
 - Entry-level diver certification from another training organization (with a minimum of four open water training dives)

Dives

One confined water or open water dive

Equipment

As described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide.

Forms

Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency Acknowledgment Form – Diver Activities (10086 or 10651EU), Diver Medical Form (10346) and Standard Safe Diving Practices Statement of Understanding (10060)

Or

Continuing Education Administrative Document (10038 or EU 10541) with Diver Medical Form (10346)

Download the most current forms from [padi.com/Pros' Site](http://padi.com/Pros').
Check with your PADI Office for region-specific releases or forms.

Instructor Rating

Divemaster

Materials

Required

PADI ReActivate eLearning

Ratios

Confined Water

10:1

Instructors may add four divers per certified assistant.

Open Water

8:1

Instructors may add two divers per certified assistant to a maximum of 12.

Recognition

Divers who complete knowledge review and the ReActivate Quick Review online receive a ReActivate eRecord.

- **PADI Divers who complete both the knowledge review and the dive skills refresher receive a replacement PADI certification card with ReActivate on it.**
- **Divers certified through another training organization who complete both the knowledge review and the dive skills refresher receive a PADI ReActivate Recognition Card.**

Using ReActivate to Assess Diver Readiness

You may use ReActivate as a readiness assessment for other purposes. See PADI's *Guide to Teaching* for recommendations.

Section Two

Knowledge Review

Divers refresh knowledge using PADI *ReActivate eLearning*. Provide remediation as necessary. If not already completed online as verified on the participant's ReActivate eRecord, administer the ReActivate Quick Review. Remediate any missed questions until divers demonstrate mastery.

Look for the ReActivate Quick Review on the Pros' Site at padi.com.

Section Three

Waterskills

Prescriptive ReActivate Method and General Considerations

1. During a pre-dive interview, check diver log books (if available) and ask each diver:
 - How many dives have you made, and in what conditions and environments?
 - When and where were your last dives?
 - How did your last dives go? What would help you to improve them?
 - What skills do you want to practice?
2. Observe divers during pre-dive planning, equipment assembly and adjustment, pre-dive safety check, entry, descents, buoyancy control, ascents, exit and general dive skills such as equalization during the confined water dive or open water dive. Based on your observations, provide reminders, demonstrations, adjustments and other remediation and practice as needed to restore mastery.

3. Follow skill performance requirements and any skill depth requirements as indicated in the Open Water Diver Course Instructor Guide.

Performance Requirements

1. **Complete a confined water dive or complete a guided dive in open water to practice and demonstrate general diving skills, including:**
 - a. **Remove, replace and clear the mask.**
 - b. **Become neutrally buoyant and hover.**
 - c. **At the surface in water too deep in which to stand, with a deflated BCD, use the weight system's quick release to pull clear and drop sufficient weight to become positively buoyant.**
 - d. **Ascend properly using an alternate air source and establish positive buoyancy at the surface. Act as both donor and receiver.**
2. **Have divers perform and practice any skills they said they want to practice during the pre-dive interview and those that require more practice, based on your observations.**
 - a. **Only conduct controlled emergency swimming ascents in confined water, horizontally or diagonally.**

DISCOVER LOCAL DIVING PROGRAM

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



PADI[®]

Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Discover Local Diving Program, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Program Standards

Diver Prerequisites

- **Certified as PADI (Junior) Scuba Diver**
- **10 years old**

Equipment

As described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide.

Instructor Rating

Divemaster

Materials

PADI Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency Acknowledgment Form – Diver Activities (10086 or 10651EU)

Ratios

Base ratio on factors including diver comfort, experience, age, environmental conditions and logistics as described in the General Standards and Procedures Guide.

Open Water

General Considerations

1. **Briefing**
 - Overview the dive site including conditions, hazards and points of interest.
 - Explain how to interact responsibly with the aquatic environment.
 - Explain procedures and techniques used locally.
2. Take divers on a guided tour of the dive site.
3. Debriefing – discuss observations.
4. Log as a Discover Local Diving dive – sign each diver's log book.

ADVANCED SNORKELER (SKIN DIVER) COURSE

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



Standards outlined in the General Standards and Procedures Guide apply to the PADI Advanced Snorkeler (Skin Diver) Course, except as noted otherwise in this guide.

Section One

Course Standards

Certification Requirements

- Participate in knowledge development session.
- Meet confined water performance requirements.

Depth

5 metres/15 feet

Diver Prerequisites

8 years old

Equipment

Mask, fins, snorkel and buoyancy control device

NOTE: Snorkeling vest or buoyant exposure suit may be used. If weights are worn, diver must be buoyant at the surface after exhaling and to a depth of at least 5 metres/15 feet.

Instructor Rating

Divemaster or Freediver Instructor

Materials

Current version of PADI Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Non-agency Acknowledgment Form for Advanced Snorkeler (10089 or 10106EU) as appropriate for the area

Ratios

Confined Water

16:1

Open Water

10:1

Section Two

Knowledge Development

Conduct a knowledge development session or briefing that covers snorkeling principles and information including:

- Equipment
- Pressure-volume relationships
- Dive environments
- Signals and communication
- Responsible interaction with aquatic life
- Problem management
- Equalization
- Proper breathing for breathhold diving and why hyperventilation is not used
- Removing the snorkel from the mouth when descending and why
- Proper weighting based on freediving practices
- One up, one down buddy system
- Local safe diving practices

Section Three

Confined Water

Performance Requirements

1. Assemble, adjust, prepare, put on and remove mask, fins, snorkel and buoyancy device.
2. Perform the buddy pre-dive safety check.
3. Demonstrate appropriate entry and exit, using local techniques.

4. **Adjust for proper weighting as is consistent with freediving practices.**
5. **Breathe through a snorkel using airway control and swimming at the surface in water too deep in which to stand.**
6. **Using the blast method, clear a snorkel of water at the surface.**
7. **Obtain positive buoyancy at the surface in water too deep in which to stand.** Either remove a weight belt (if used) or orally inflate the snorkeling vest (if used).
8. **Continuously stay within 3 metres/10 feet of a buddy while at the surface.**
9. **Following relaxed breathing at the surface, remove the snorkel from the mouth, hold the breath and make a vertical, head first dive in water too deep in which to stand.**
10. **Swim at least 15 metres/50 feet horizontally underwater on a single breath.**
11. **Ascend by looking up and around while swimming, holding one hand over the head.**
12. **Upon surfacing, exhale gently, signal their buddy they are okay, and breathe relaxed.**
13. **From the surface, watch buddy descend and be prepared to dive down to assist. After buddy surfaces, stay within arm's reach for 1–2 minutes during recovery breathing.**
14. **Communicate using hand signals at the surface and underwater.**

Section Four

Open Water (optional)

Performance Requirements

1. Put on and adjust equipment.
2. Perform a pre-dive safety check.
3. Adjust weighting.
4. Demonstrate proper entries and exits for the local environment.
5. Demonstrate appropriate application of skills mastered and demonstrated in confined water.
6. Interact with the environment in a responsible manner.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP GUIDE



Membership Status

Active Status

Active status authorizes PADI Divemasters to perform the duties of a PADI certified assistant and conduct courses as outlined.

Requirements

- 1. PADI Membership Renewal and dues for the current year on file at your PADI Office**
- 2. Agree to PADI Membership and License Agreements**
- 3. Proof of current professional liability insurance as required by your PADI Office** (see the Pros' Site at padi.com)
- 4. Meet one of the following:**
 - Became a PADI Divemaster the previous year**
 - Renewed in Active status the previous year**
 - Meet Active status retraining requirements**

Inactive Status

PADI Divemasters in Inactive status are not authorized to perform Divemaster Duties as listed in PADI Professional Ratings/ Divemaster. If renewed, membership benefits continue.

Teaching Status

Teaching status authorizes PADI Instructors and Assistant Instructors to teach PADI courses and certify students as PADI Divers.

A PADI Course Director who is in Teaching status and has updated as required is authorized to teach PADI Instructor-level courses.

Requirements

1. **PADI Membership Renewal and dues for the current year on file at your PADI Office**
2. **Agree to PADI Membership and License Agreements**
3. **Proof of current professional liability insurance for dive instruction. PADI TecRec instructors must have proof of professional liability insurance that covers TecRec courses**

Exception: When living/teaching in an area specified by your PADI Office as exempt from insurance requirements.

4. **Meet one of the following:**
 - **Became a PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor or PADI Assistant Instructor the previous year**
 - **Renewed in Teaching status the previous year**
 - **Meet Teaching status retraining requirements**

Nonteaching Status

A member in Nonteaching status is not authorized to teach PADI courses nor certify PADI Divers. If renewed, the member does, however, continue to receive membership benefits.

Review Status

A member in Review status is authorized to teach PADI courses and certify PADI Divers as long as Teaching status requirements are met. Members in Review status do not qualify for the PADI Master Instructor and Course Director ratings.

Administrative Hold, Suspended, Terminated, Expelled and Inactive Statuses

Members in Administrative Hold, Inactive or Suspended status and those who have been expelled from membership or who have had membership terminated, are not authorized to teach PADI or Emergency First Response courses, nor certify

PADI Divers do not issue EFR course completion cards, nor carry out the responsibilities of a certified assistant, do not receive membership benefits, and are not authorized to represent themselves as PADI Members.

The names of members who are suspended or expelled, and some whose memberships have been terminated are published in *The Undersea Journal* and are also posted to the Quality Management section of padi.com.

Alumni Status

Alumni status is for PADI Members in good standing who are “retiring” and no longer plan to teach PADI courses or actively supervising divers. Alumni status members are not authorized to teach, supervise or certify PADI Divers, however, do continue to receive limited membership benefits, and may represent themselves as PADI Members.

Membership Forms

Download the most current forms from padi.com/Pros Site. Check with your PADI Office for region specific releases, applications or forms.

PADI Professional Ratings

PADI Professional-level courses and ratings have PADI, TecRec or EFR certification prerequisites. No other ratings or certifications qualify as equivalents to these, unless specifically noted.

Divemaster

Course Prerequisites

1. **PADI Advanced Open Water and PADI Rescue Diver certifications (or qualifying certifications)**
2. **18 years old**
3. **Medical clearance attesting to dive fitness signed by a physician within the previous 12 months**
4. **40 logged dives**
5. **Emergency First Response Primary and Secondary Care course completion (or qualifying training) within the last 24 months**

Exit Requirements

1. **Emergency First Response Primary and Secondary Care course completion (or qualifying training) within the last 24 months**
2. **60 logged dives; documented experience in underwater navigation, night diving and deep diving**

Divemaster Duties

Active status Divemasters are authorized to:

1. Supervise both training and nontraining-related activities by planning, organizing and directing dives.
2. Assist an instructor during confined and open water training.
3. Guide Open Water Diver course students on the tour portion of Open Water Dives 2, 3 and 4 at a 2:1 ratio, under the instructor's indirect supervision.

4. Accompany Open Water Diver students under the instructor's indirect supervision during surface swims to and from the entry/exit point and during navigational exercises; as well as supervise remaining students when the instructor conducts a skill.
5. Accompany student divers during Adventure Dives or specialty course dives under the instructor's indirect supervision.
6. Teach and certify PADI Advanced Snorkelers (Skin Divers) independently. This also includes conducting the PADI Seal Team AquaMission: Skin Diver Specialist.
7. Conduct the Discover Snorkeling program.
8. Conduct subsequent dives under an instructor's indirect supervision for Discover Scuba Diving participants at a 2:1 ratio, after participants have satisfactorily completed the first dive with an instructor.
9. Conduct the Discover Local Diving experience.
10. Conduct the ReActivate program for certified divers.
11. Conduct the advanced snorkeling skills segment of the Open Water Diver course during confined water dive 2, 3, 4, or 5.
12. If qualified as a Discover Scuba Diving Leader, independently conduct Discover Scuba Diving in a pool or in confined open water for participants who are not going to do the optional open water dive.
13. Accompany certified PADI Scuba Divers on subsequent dives.
14. After completing the corresponding instructor training and earning Specialty Instructor ratings, conduct:
 - a. Digital Underwater Photographer specialty courses under the direction of a PADI Instructor.
 - b. Specialty courses that don't include dives.

Discover Scuba Diving

Leader Internship Requirements

To qualify, a certified PADI Divemaster completes a Discover Scuba Diving (DSD) Leader internship. This includes conducting four separate real (not simulated) PADI Discover Scuba Diving programs in confined water under the direct supervision of a PADI Instructor. DSD Leader candidates show their ability to distribute DSD materials to participants, review completed administrative documents, conduct effective briefings, inwater supervision and debriefings.

DSD Leader candidates complete the Discover Scuba Diving Leader Internship Assessment, available on the Pros' Site at padi.com.

The PADI Instructor conducting the internship fills in any missing information and makes corrections as necessary to ensure a complete and well-supervised Discover Scuba Diving Program for participants.

During the internship, evaluate DSD Leader candidates using the following Leadership Evaluation criteria. DSD Leader candidates score at least a 3 on each performance requirement.

Leadership Evaluation

Score	Criteria
5	Independently accomplished the objective without error. Anticipated participant needs.
4	Accomplished the objective without error and without significant help from instructor or staff.
3	Accomplished the objective adequately, with a few insignificant errors. Instructor correction and intervention limited to brief reminders or suggestions.
2	Demonstrated rudimentary understanding of tasks required to meet objective. Made significant errors or omission. Instructor correction and intervention was required for a competent result.
1	Made many or substantial errors and omissions in attempting to meet objective; or objective not met.

Briefing Performance Requirements

DSD Leader candidate:

- Clearly explained participant and divemaster roles.
- Covered all the briefing points listed in the Discover Scuba Diving Program Instructor Guide.
- Had participants complete *Discover Scuba Diver eLearning*, or review and sign the *Discover Scuba Diving Participant Guide*.
- Assessed participant readiness to participate in the program.

Skill Performance Requirements

DSD Leader candidate:

- Set up and checked participant equipment.
- Had participants practice these skills in shallow water:
 - Breathing underwater
 - Regulator clearing
 - Regulator recovery
 - Mask clearing
 - Equalization techniques
 - Inflate and deflate a BCD at the surface
- Supervised participants and maintained a position close enough to quickly adjust buoyancy or respond to any participant problems as they swam around underwater.
- Adjusted participant buoyancy effectively.
- Handled participant problems, if any, effectively.
- Organized and controlled all confined water activities.
- Provided a positive, fun experience for participants.
- Followed all PADI Standards.

Debriefing Performance Requirements

DSD Leader candidate:

- Explained the limitations of the program.
- Encouraged participants to move on to a PADI certification course.

PADI Divemasters who complete the internship submit a PADI Divemaster Discover Scuba Diving Internship Completion form to their PADI Office signed by the supervising instructor.

Assistant Instructor

Course Prerequisites

1. **PADI Divemaster, or leadership level with another diver training organization**
2. **18 years old**
3. **60 logged dives; documented experience in night diving, deep diving and underwater navigation**
4. **Medical clearance attesting to dive fitness signed by a physician within the previous 12 months**
5. **Emergency First Response Primary and Secondary Care course completion (or qualifying training) within the last 24 months**
6. **If not a PADI Divemaster, complete the PADI Divemaster course dive rescue assessment and submit documentation of qualifying certifications for entry-level, advanced, rescue and leadership level to PADI**

Assistant Instructor Duties

Teaching status Assistant Instructors (certified/upgraded since 1995) are authorized to:

1. Present the knowledge development elaboration for any PADI Diver course under the instructor's indirect supervision. The instructor personally assesses student knowledge development.
2. Present initial skills training under the instructor's direct supervision during confined water dives.
3. Conduct open water surface skill evaluations during Open Water Diver course dives under the instructor's indirect supervision.
4. Teach and certify Peak Performance Buoyancy Specialty Divers under the direction of an instructor.

5. Independently teach the PADI AWARE (nondiving) Specialty course.
6. Independently teach the Coral Reef Conservation (nondiving) Specialty course.
7. Independently conduct Discover Scuba Diving in a pool or confined water for participants who are not going to do the optional open water dive.
8. Independently conduct Bubblemaker programs.
9. Independently conduct PADI Seal Team AquaMissions.
10. Teach and certify divers in specialty courses that don't include dives after completing Specialty Instructor Training courses and earning Specialty Instructor ratings for such specialties.
11. After completing the corresponding instructor training and earning Specialty Instructor ratings, conduct Digital Underwater Photographer specialty courses under the direction of a PADI Instructor.

Open Water Scuba Instructor Instructor Development Course (IDC)

Course Prerequisites

1. **PADI Divemaster, or leadership level with another diver training organization**
2. **18 years old**
3. **60 logged dives; documented experience in night diving, deep diving and underwater navigation**
4. **If not a PADI Divemaster, successfully complete the PADI Divemaster course dive rescue assessment**
5. **Certified diver for six months**
6. **Medical clearance attesting to dive fitness signed by a physician within the previous 12 months**

- 7. Emergency First Response Primary and Secondary Care course completion (or qualifying training) within the last 24 months**

Open Water Scuba Instructor (OWSI) Program

Course Prerequisites

- 1. All IDC prerequisites**
- 2. PADI Assistant Instructor, or current instructor member in good standing (eligible to renew*) with another recreational diver training organization for at least six months**

*Contact your PADI Office with questions about eligibility.

Instructor Examination

Earning a PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor certification requires successfully completing a PADI Instructor Examination (IE) conducted by a PADI Instructor Examiner.

IE Prerequisites

- 1. 100 logged dives**

Exception: PADI Five Star Career Development Center (CDC) candidates who are enrolled in five pre- or post-IDC courses or a six-week program.

- 2. Successfully complete the Instructor Development Course or the Open Water Scuba Instructor Program within the past 12 months**

Exit Requirements

- 1. Emergency First Response Instructor or CPR/first aid instructor with another emergency care organization**
- 2. If a CDC graduate, proof of 100 logged dives**

Open Water Scuba Instructor Duties

Teaching status Open Water Scuba Instructors are authorized to teach the following PADI courses:

- PADI Scuba Diver/Open Water Diver
- Adventure Diver/Advanced Open Water Diver
- Rescue Diver
- Divemaster
- Advanced Snorkeler (Skin Diver) and Discover Snorkeling
- Discover Scuba Diving
- PADI Seal Team and Bubblemaker
- ReActivate and Discover Local Diving
- Peak Performance Buoyancy
- PADI AWARE Specialty
- Coral Reef Conservation

Specialty Instructor

PADI Members qualify for PADI Specialty Instructor ratings either by attending Specialty Instructor Training Courses conducted by a PADI Course Director or by applying directly to their PADI Office (with exceptions noted below).

Specialty Instructor Training Course

Course Prerequisite

All Specialties

- **PADI Instructor or currently participating in or completed an IDC/OWSI Program within the past 12 months. IDC/OWSI candidates may apply for Specialty Instructor certification only after passing an IE**

Specialties Without Dives

- **PADI Assistant Instructor**
- **PADI Divemaster in these courses: Emergency Oxygen Provider, Equipment Specialist, Coral Reef Conservation, PADI AWARE Specialist and PADI Distinctive Specialty Diver (approved)**

Exception: Both Divemasters and Assistant Instructors may attend Digital Underwater Photographer Specialty Instructor training courses.

Additional prerequisites for certain specialty instructor training courses:

- **Cavern** — full Cave Diver certification by a recognized cave diving certification organization
- **Enriched Air** — PADI Enriched Air Diver certification (or comparable rating)
- **Ice** — PADI Ice Diver certification (or comparable rating)
- **Self-Reliant** — PADI Self-Reliant Diver certification (or comparable rating) or TecRec Diver

Exit Requirements

1. **10 logged dives in the specialty area, as applicable**

Exception: 20 dives are required for the PADI Semiclosed Rebreather Specialty Instructor

2. **PADI Divemasters complete IDC curriculum component — Learning and Teaching Workshop with scenarios specific to the specialty**

Applying Directly to Your PADI Office

Prerequisites

1. **PADI Instructor**
2. **Certified 25 divers**
 - a. **No more than five from courses without dives**
 - b. **No more than five from PADI Seal Team or Master Seal Team registrations**
3. **20 dives in the specialty area**
4. **Agree to use the PADI Specialty Course Instructor Guide by signing the statement on the application or submit an instructor-authored outline to your PADI Office for review**

Additional prerequisites for certain specialty courses:

- **Adaptive Techniques** — training in adaptive techniques and/or experience training divers with disabilities from a dedicated diving organization
- **Equipment Specialist** — equipment manufacturer's repair clinic attendance, or written equipment repair authorization from a manufacturer. No logged dives are necessary.
- **Emergency Oxygen Provider** — PADI Emergency Oxygen Provider certification (or qualifying certification)
- **Cavern** — full Cave Diver certification by a recognized cave diving certification organization
- **Enriched Air** — PADI Enriched Air Diver certification (or qualifying certification)
- **Ice** — PADI Ice Diver certification (or comparable certification)
- **Self-Reliant** — PADI Self-Reliant Diver certification (or comparable certification) or TecRec Diver
- **Sidemount** — PADI Sidemount Diver certification (or comparable rating) or proof of 50 dives using sidemount configuration

Teaching Experience Credits

Applying to become a PADI Specialty Instructor (using Methods 2 and 3), Master Scuba Diver Trainer, Master Instructor or Course Director requires proof of teaching experience. Gain additional credit using the following teaching experience equivalents.

1. Receive credit for one Open Water Diver certification for every two Open Water Diver Course referrals issued, if you conduct all knowledge development, confined water dives and watermanship assessments for those students. To receive referral credit, send a Training Completion Form (10234) to your PADI Office.
2. Receive one Open Water Diver certification for every five Discover Scuba Diving registrations.

3. Receive credit for one Open Water Diver certification for every five ReActivate programs completed with divers.
4. IDC Staff Instructors receive Adventure Diver or higher certification credit toward the Master Instructor rating by staffing IDCs.
 - Staff one entire IDC. One certification credit is given for each instructor candidate in the course up to a maximum of eight credits per IDC.
 - Staff two entire IDCs to equal five Assistant Instructor certification credits.
 - Staff one entire IDC and certify three Assistant Instructors to equal five Assistant Instructor credits.

Exception: If you staff an IDC and issue Assistant Instructor certifications, you cannot receive multiple credit for the same candidate.

To receive credit, submit IDC Course Report Forms with the Master Instructor application.

Master Scuba Diver Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Instructor
2. Five PADI Specialty Instructor ratings

Note: Excludes PADI Peak Performance Buoyancy, PADI AWARE and Coral Conservation Specialty Instructor ratings. One PADI Freediver Instructor rating may credit.

3. **Certified 25 PADI Divers**
 - a. **No more than five from courses without scuba dives (Equipment Specialist, PADI AWARE, Freediver, Mermaid, etc.)**
 - b. **No more than five from PADI Seal Team or Master Seal Team registrations**

Dedicated Master Scuba Diver Trainer

PADI Instructors qualify to issue Dedicated Master Scuba Diver certifications by:

- **Becoming a PADI Distinctive Specialty Instructor in five specialties dedicated to a specific region or dive topic.**
- **Meeting the Master Scuba Diver Trainer requirement of certifying 25 PADI Divers.**
- **Submitting a dedicated PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer application to their PADI Regional Headquarters for review and approval.**

IDC Staff Instructor

Instructors qualify as PADI IDC Staff Instructors by attending an IDC Staff Instructor course conducted by a PADI Course Director.

Course Prerequisites

1. **Master Scuba Diver Trainer**
2. **Emergency First Response Instructor**
3. **Agree to conduct all PADI certification courses and experience programs using methods consistent with PADI Standards and philosophy as outlined in the PADI *Instructor Manual* and PADI's *Guide to Teaching***
4. **Agree to use the PADI System and components in their entirety**

IDC Staff Instructor Duties

Teaching status, updated IDC Staff Instructors are authorized to:

1. Independently teach and certify PADI Assistant Instructors (at PADI Five Star Dive Centers or PADI Five Star Dive Resorts).
2. Conduct IDC training segments while the Course Director is available on premises for consultation.
3. Evaluate and critique instructor candidate knowledge development, confined water and open water teaching presentations.
4. Provide counseling and remedial training for instructor candidates and IDC Staff Instructor candidates.
5. Assist with training during instructor-level continuing education programs.

Master Instructor

Prerequisites

1. **PADI IDC Staff Instructor**
2. **PADI Instructor for two years**
3. **Emergency First Response Instructor**

4. Participated in three PADI Seminars
5. Issued 150 PADI certifications:
 - a. At least 50 continuing education certifications (Adventure Diver or higher level) that include: 15 Specialty Divers, five Rescue Divers, five Divemasters and five Assistant Instructors
Other ways to meet the 5 Assistant Instructor certification requirement:
 - Staff two entire IDCs
 - Staff one entire IDC and certify three additional Assistant Instructors
 - b. No more than 75 from Discover Scuba Diving credits
 - c. No more than 25 from specialties/courses without scuba dives (Equipment Specialist, PADI AWARE Specialist, Freediver, Mermaid, etc.)
 - d. No more than 10 from PADI Seal Team or Master Seal Team registrations
 - e. No more than 50 from IDC staffing credits
6. Issued 10 Emergency First Response course completion cards
7. Used the complete PADI System of diver education including all appropriate PADI training materials when conducting PADI programs
8. Issued PADI as the primary certification, and conducted PADI certification courses and experience programs using methods consistent with PADI Standards and philosophy as outlined in the PADI *Instructor Manual* and PADI's *Guide to Teaching*
9. Have no verified Quality Assurance violations within the past six months and no open quality assurance inquiries

Course Director

Course Prerequisites

1. **PADI Master Instructor**
2. **For 12 months before the course start date:**
 - a. **Have no verified quality assurance complaints**
 - b. **Conducted all PADI certification courses and experience programs using methods consistent with PADI Standards and philosophy as outlined in the PADI *Instructor Manual* and PADI's *Guide to Teaching***
 - c. **Used the complete PADI System of diver education exclusively, including all appropriate PADI educational materials**
 - d. **Taught PADI Diver courses exclusively**

Exceptions: Students referred from other certification organizations for completion of entry-level training or certain technical, commercial and other courses not currently offered by PADI.

3. **Staffed two complete IDCs after IDC Staff Instructor certification**
4. **Emergency First Response Instructor Trainer**
5. **250 logged dives**
6. **PADI Dive Center or Resort work experience**
7. **Met other requirements as listed on the current application and must be 21 years old before the course begins**

Prerequisites fulfillment does not guarantee acceptance into the course. Applications are evaluated against selection criteria and ranked within the pool of applicants. Top ranking applicants are accepted into the course.

Course Director Duties

Teaching status, updated Course Directors are authorized to conduct Instructor Development Courses, OWSI Programs, IDC Staff Instructor courses (at authorized locations) and Status Updates.

Specialty Course Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. **PADI Course Director**
2. **PADI Specialty Instructor certification in the specialty area**
3. **Agree to use the PADI Specialty Course Instructor Guides or submit a role-model instructor-authored outline to your PADI Office for review**

PADI TecRec® Professional Ratings

Reference the appropriate PADI TecRec Instructor Guide for complete requirements.

Gas Blender Instructor

Prerequisites

1. PADI Instructor
2. PADI Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor
3. PADI Gas Blender (or qualifying certification)

Met one of the following:

1. Completed the PADI Gas Blender Instructor course
2. Show experience by having held a PADI Gas Blender (or qualifying) certification for at least six months and:
 - Have blended 50 or more enriched air fills with the resulting blend analyzed within one percent of the desired content
 - Have obtained and read the *PADI Gas Blender Manual* and PADI Gas Blender Instructor Guide

Trimix Blender Instructor

Prerequisites

1. PADI Instructor
2. PADI Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor
3. PADI Trimix Blender (or qualifying certification)

Met one of the following:

1. Completed the PADI Trimix Blender Instructor course
2. Show experience by having held a PADI Trimix Blender (or qualifying) certification for at least six months and:

- a. Have blended 50 or more trimix fills with the resulting blend analyzed within one percent of the desired content
- b. Have obtained and read the *PADI Gas Blender Manual* and PADI Gas Blender Instructor Guide

PADI Rebreather Instructor

Prerequisites

1. PADI Instructor
2. PADI Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor
3. PADI Deep Diver Specialty Instructor
4. PADI Advanced Rebreather Diver (or qualifying certification) on the specific rebreather unit
5. 150 logged dives – at least 30 dives/30 hours on the specific unit

Exit Requirements

1. Completed a PADI Rebreather Instructor course
2. Assist with at least one PADI Rebreather or PADI Advanced Rebreather course

Tec 40 Instructor

Prerequisites

1. PADI Instructor
2. PADI Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor
3. PADI Deep Diver Specialty Instructor
4. 25 EANx dives deeper than 30 metres/100 feet
5. Tec 45 Diver
6. 10 decompression dives wearing full technical equipment

Exit Requirements

1. **Certified 25 divers**
 - No more than five from courses without dives
 - No more than five from PADI Seal Team or Master Seal Team registrations
2. Have a minimum of 20 decompression dives

Meet one of the following:

1. Completed a PADI Tec 40 Instructor course
2. Have a qualifying tec instructor rating with another organization and:
 - Have assisted with one Tec 40 Diver course or taught two qualifying courses
 - Successfully completed the Tec 40 Instructor Exam within 12 months of application

Tec 40 Trimix Instructor

Meet all Tec 40 Instructor prerequisites and requirements, and:

1. Have a Tec 50 Trimix Diver (or higher level trimix) certification
2. Have a minimum of 10 trimix dives
3. Successfully complete the Tec Diver Trimix Instructor Course, or have a qualifying trimix instructor rating with another organization
4. Successfully complete the Tec Diver Trimix Instructor Exam

Tec 45 Instructor

Prerequisites

1. PADI Instructor
2. PADI Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor

3. PADI Deep Diver Specialty Instructor
4. 25 EANx dives deeper than 30 metres/100 feet
5. Tec 45 Diver
6. 10 decompression dives wearing full technical equipment

Exit Requirements

1. Certified 25 divers
 - No more than five from courses without dives
 - No more than five from PADI Seal Team or Master Seal Team registrations
2. 150 logged dives with 20 decompression dives deeper than 30 metres/100 feet

Meet one of the following:

1. Completed a PADI Tec 45 Instructor course
2. Have a qualifying tec instructor rating with another organization and:
 - Be a PADI Tec 40 Instructor or have assisted with one Tec 40 Diver course or taught two qualifying courses
 - Have assisted with one Tec 45 Diver course or taught two qualifying courses
 - Successfully completed the Tec 45 Instructor Exam within 12 months of application

Tec 45 Trimix Instructor.

Meet all Tec 45 Instructor prerequisites and requirements, and:

1. Have a Tec 50 Trimix Diver (or higher level trimix) certification
2. Have a minimum of 10 trimix dives

3. **Successfully complete the Tec Diver Trimix Instructor Course, or have a qualifying trimix instructor rating with another organization**
4. **Successfully complete the Tec Diver Trimix Instructor Exam**

Tec 50 Instructor

Prerequisites

1. **PADI Instructor**
2. **PADI Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor**
3. **PADI Deep Diver Specialty Instructor**
4. **25 EANx dives deeper than 30 metres/100 feet**
5. **Tec 50 Diver**
6. **10 decompression dives wearing full technical equipment**

Exit Requirements

1. **Certified 25 divers**
 - **No more than five from courses without dives**
 - **No more than five from PADI Seal Team or Master Seal Team registrations**
2. **250 logged dives with 25 decompression dives deeper than 40 metres/130 feet**

Meet one of the following:

1. **Completed a PADI Tec 50 Instructor course**
2. **Have a qualifying tec instructor rating with another organization and:**
 - **Be a PADI Tec 40 Instructor or have assisted with one Tec 40 Diver course or taught two qualifying courses**

- Be a PADI Tec 45 Instructor or have assisted with one Tec 45 Diver course or taught two qualifying courses
- Have assisted with one Tec 50 Diver course or taught two qualifying courses
- Successfully completed the Tec 50 Instructor Exam within 12 months of application

Tec 50 Trimix Instructor

Meet all Tec 50 Instructor prerequisites and requirements, and:

1. Have a Tec 50 Trimix Diver (or higher level trimix) certification
2. Have a minimum of 10 trimix dives
3. Successfully complete the Tec Diver Trimix Instructor Course, or have a qualifying trimix instructor rating with another organization
4. Successfully complete the Tec Diver Trimix Instructor Exam

Tec Trimix Instructor

Prerequisites

1. PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer
2. Tec 50 or Tec 50 Trimix Instructor

Exit Requirements

1. Tec Trimix Diver (or qualifying certification)
2. 350 logged dives:
 - a. 50 technical decompression dives (beyond those required for certification) deeper than 40 metres/130 feet
 - b. 30 dives deeper than 40 metres/130 feet while using trimix as the bottom gas

- c. **10 dives deeper than 50 metres/165 feet using trimix with less than 21 percent oxygen**

Met one of the following:

- 1. Completed a PADI Tec Trimix Instructor Course**
- 2. Assisted with a Tec Trimix Diver course. Completed the Tec Trimix Instructor exams within 12 months of application**

Tec Specialty Instructor

PADI Instructors qualify for PADI Tec Specialty Instructor ratings either by attending Specialty Instructor Training courses conducted by a PADI Tec Specialty Instructor Trainer, or by applying directly to their PADI Office.

Tec Sidemount Instructor

Prerequisites

- 1. PADI Instructor**
- 2. PADI Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor**
- 3. PADI Deep Diver Specialty Instructor**
- 4. 100 logged dives – at least 20 dives with enriched air nitrox, 25 dives deeper than 18 metres/60 feet and 15 dives deeper than 30 metres/100 feet**
- 5. Tec 45 Diver (Tec 50 Diver if applying directly)**

Exit Requirement

- 1. Tec 40 Instructor**

Met one of the following:

- 1. Tec Sidemount Diver, completed the Tec Sidemount Instructor Course and have 20 technical sidemount dives – at least 10 with three or more cylinders (two mains and at least one stage/deco cylinder)**

2. PADI Tec Sidemount Diver (or qualifying certification) and proof of at least 50 technical sidemount dives including 30 with three or more cylinders (two mains and at least one stage/deco cylinder)
3. PADI Sidemount Diver (or qualifying certification) and proof of at least 60 technical sidemount dives with at least 35 with three or more cylinders (two mains and at least one stage/deco cylinder)
4. 80 technical sidemount dives with at least 40 with three or more cylinders (two mains and at least one stage/deco cylinder)

Tec 40 CCR Instructor

Prerequisites

1. PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer
2. PADI Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor
3. PADI Deep Diver Specialty Instructor
4. Tec 40 CCR Diver on the specific Type T CCR (or qualifying certification)
5. 150 logged dives – at least 100 dives and 100 hours on the specific Type T CCR

Exit Requirements

1. Completed the Tec 40 CCR Instructor Training course
2. Assist with at least one Tec 40 CCR course

Tec 60 CCR Instructor

Prerequisites

1. Tec 40 CCR Instructor on the specific Type T CCR
2. Tec 60 CCR Diver (or qualifying certification) on the specific Type T CCR
3. 300 logged dives – at least 150 dives and 150 hours on Type T CCR, including 120 dives and 120 hours on the

specific Type T CCR. At least 25 dives must be trimix/heliox CCR dives deeper than 40 metres/ 130 feet

4. Have taught at least one complete Tec 40 CCR Diver course and issued at least one Tec 40 CCR Diver certification

Exit Requirements

1. Completed the Tec 60 CCR Instructor Training course
2. Assist with at least one Tec 60 CCR course

Tec 100 CCR Instructor

Prerequisites

1. Tec 60 CCR Instructor on the specific Type T CCR
2. Tec 100 CCR Diver (or qualifying certification) on the specific Type T CCR
3. 350 logged dives – at least 200 dives and 200 hours on Type T CCR, including 120 dives and 120 hours on the specific Type T CCR. At least 50 dives must be trimix/heliox CCR dives deeper than 40 metres/130 feet and at least 25 dives must be trimix/heliox CCR dives deeper than 60 metres/200 feet
4. Have taught at least one complete Tec 60 CCR Diver course and issued at least one Tec 60 CCR Diver certification

Exit Requirements

1. Completed the Tec 100 CCR Instructor Training course
2. Assist with at least one Tec 100 CCR course

Gas Blender Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer
2. PADI Gas Blender Instructor

Trimix Blender Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer
2. PADI Trimix Blender Instructor

PADI Rebreather Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer
2. PADI Rebreather Instructor on the specific rebreather unit
3. Complete a PADI Rebreather Instructor Trainer course.
4. 150 rebreather dives – at least 75 dives/75 hours on the specific unit
5. Have certified at least five PADI Rebreather Divers and five PADI Advanced Rebreather Divers with at least four certifications on the specific unit

Tec 50 Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. Tec 50 Instructor
2. Issued at least 30 certifications from TecRec courses with at least five certifications each for Tec 40, Tec 45 and Tec 50 Diver levels
3. Have no verified quality assurance violations within the past 12 months.

Met one of the following:

1. PADI Course Director who has assisted with at least one Tec 40, 45 or 50 Instructor Course, and successfully completed a Tec 50 Instructor Trainer Orientation or a Tec 50 Instructor Trainer Course

2. Successfully completed a Tec 50 Instructor Trainer Course

Tec 50 Trimix Instructor Trainer

Meet all Tec 50 Instructor Trainer prerequisites and requirements, and be a Tec 50 Trimix Instructor (or higher level trimix instructor rating).

Tec Trimix Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Tec 50 Instructor Trainer
2. PADI Tec Trimix Instructor
3. Have issued at least eight certifications from the Tec Trimix 65 and Tec Trimix courses, including at least four Tec Trimix certifications
4. Successfully complete the Tec Trimix Instructor Trainer Orientation and Knowledge Review

Tec Specialty Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer
2. Tec 50 Instructor/Tec CCR Instructor
3. Tec Specialty Instructor in the specialty area

Tec Sidemount Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer
2. PADI Tec Sidemount Instructor

Tec 40 CCR Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer

2. Tec 40 CCR Instructor on the specific Type T CCR
3. 350 dives – at least 200 CCR dives with 100 dives and 100 hours on the specific Type T CCR
4. Have certified at least 30 rebreather divers, including at least 10 Tec 40 CCR Divers with at least four certifications on the specific Type T CCR. Maximum of 15 recreational rebreather diver certifications may apply
5. Complete a Tec 40 CCR Instructor Trainer Course

Tec 60 CCR Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer
2. Tec 60 CCR Instructor on the specific Type T CCR
3. Tec 40 CCR Instructor Trainer on specific Type T CCR
4. Have certified at least 40 Tec CCR divers, including at least 10 Tec 60 CCR Divers with at least four certifications on the specific Type T CCR
5. Have certified at least two Tec 40 CCR Instructors

Tec 100 CCR Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. PADI Course Director or TecRec Instructor Trainer
2. Tec 100 CCR Instructor on the specific Type T CCR
3. Tec 60 CCR Instructor Trainer on specific Type T CCR
4. Have certified at least 50 Tec CCR divers, including at least 4 Tec 100 CCR Divers with at least two certifications on the specific Type T CCR
5. Have certified as least two Tec 60 CCR Instructors

EFR® Professional Ratings

Emergency First Response Instructor

Individuals qualify as Emergency First Response (EFR) Instructors by attending an EFR Instructor Course conducted by an EFR Instructor Trainer.

Course Prerequisites

- 1. EFR Primary and Secondary Care (or qualifying training) within the past 24 months**
- 2. 18 years old**

Emergency First Response Instructor Trainer

Individuals qualify as Emergency First Response (EFR) Instructor Trainers by attending an EFR Instructor Trainer Course.

Course Prerequisites

- 1. EFR Instructor (including Care for Children Instructor)**
- 2. Issued 25 EFR course completion cards (or taught five EFR courses)**
- 3. Have no verified quality assurance issues within the past 12 months**

PADI Freediver™ Professional Ratings

PADI Freediver Instructor

Individuals qualify for the PADI Freediver Instructor ratings either by attending a PADI Freediver Instructor Training Course or PADI Freediver Instructor Orientation.

PADI Freediver Instructor Prerequisites

- 1. Meet one of the following:**
 - a. PADI Master Freediver**
 - b. PADI Instructor and PADI Advanced Freediver**
 - c. Qualifying freediver instructor certification and PADI Advanced Freediver**
- 2. 18 years old**
- 3. Current medical statement signed by a physician within the previous 12 months**
- 4. Complete a PADI Freediver Instructor Training course, or for qualifying freediver instructors from other organizations, complete a PADI Freediver Instructor Orientation**

Certification Requirement

- Emergency First Response (CPR/first aid) training within 24 months**

Freediver Specialty Instructor

PADI Members qualify for PADI Freediver Specialty Instructor ratings either by attending Freediver Specialty Instructor Training Courses conducted by a PADI Freediver Instructor Trainer or by applying directly to their PADI Office (with exceptions noted below).

Freediver Specialty Instructor Training Course

Course Prerequisite

PADI Freediver Instructor

Note: Additional prerequisites for certain specialty instructor training courses may apply.

Exit Requirement

1. **10 separate open water sessions in the specialty area, as applicable**

Applying Directly to Your PADI Office Prerequisites

1. **PADI Freediver Instructor**
2. **Certified 10 freedivers**
3. **20 open water sessions in the specialty area**
4. **Agree to use the PADI Freediver Specialty Course Instructor Guide by signing the statement on the application or submit an instructor-authored outline to your PADI Office for review**

Additional prerequisites for certain specialty courses:

- **Emergency Oxygen Provider Instructor rating – PADI Emergency Oxygen Provider certification (or qualifying certification)**

PADI Advanced Freediver Instructor

Prerequisites

1. **PADI Freediver Instructor (or qualifying certification with completion of a PADI Freediver Instructor Orientation)**
2. **PADI Master Freediver or qualifying certification**
3. **Emergency First Response (CPR/first aid) training within 24 months**
4. **Have issued 25 PADI Freediver certifications**

Note: Five PADI Basic Freediver certifications can count as one PADI Freediver certification, up to a maximum of five credits.

PADI Master Freediver Instructor

Prerequisites

1. **PADI Advanced Freediver Instructor (or qualifying certification with completion of a PADI Freediver Instructor Orientation)**
2. **PADI Master Freediver or qualifying certification**
3. **Current Emergency First Response (CPR/first aid) Instructor**
4. **Have issued 50 PADI Freediver program certifications, with at least 10 Advanced Freediver certifications**

Note: Five PADI Basic Freediver certifications can count as one PADI Freediver certification, up to a maximum of five credits. Assisting with one PADI Freediver Instructor course may count as five credits toward the 10 PADI Advanced Freediver certifications.

5. **Have no verified quality assurance violations within the past six months and no open quality assurance inquiries**

PADI Freediver Instructor Trainer

Individuals qualify as PADI Freediver Instructor Trainers by attending a PADI Freediver Instructor Trainer Course, or by applying directly to their PADI Regional Headquarters.

Instructor Trainer Course Application Prerequisites

1. **PADI Master Freediver Instructor**
2. **Have experience teaching all freediver program levels**
3. **EFR Instructor**
4. **Have no verified quality assurance violations within the past 12 months**

Prerequisites fulfillment does not guarantee acceptance into a PADI Freediver Instructor Trainer Course.

Applying Directly to Your PADI Regional Headquarters Prerequisites

1. **PADI Course Director**
2. **PADI Master Freediver Instructor**

Freediver Specialty Instructor Trainer

Prerequisites

1. **PADI Freediver Instructor Trainer**
2. **PADI Freediver Specialty Instructor certification in the specialty area**
3. **Agree to use the PADI Freediver Specialty Course Instructor Guides or submit a role-model instructor-authored outline to your PADI Office for review**

PADI Mermaid Program™ Professional Ratings

PADI Basic Mermaid Instructor™

To earn a Basic Mermaid Instructor rating, individuals need to meet listed knowledge, skill and experience requirements.

Prerequisites

1. **18 years old**
2. **PADI Advanced Mermaid (or qualifying certification)**
3. **EFR Primary and Secondary Care training (or qualifying) within the last 24 months**
4. **Current medical statement signed by a physician within the previous 12 months**

Exception: Current PADI Instructor or PADI Freediver Instructor.

Certification Requirements

1. **Complete the Mermaid Instructor Course knowledge development**
2. **Complete the Mermaid Instructor Exam with a passing score of at least 75 percent**
3. **Complete the following Waterskills Exercises with a PADI Mermaid Instructor or Instructor Trainer:**
 - **Swim 400 metres/yards nonstop, without swimming aids and using any stroke or combination of strokes**
 - **Perform a 10-minute tread, drown-proof, bob or float using no aids and wearing only a swimsuit.**
 - **Swim 800 metres/yards face down, using mask, snorkel and bifins, nonstop, without flotation aids and without using arms to swim**

Exception: A candidate with leg-use limitations who normally arm-swims, may use arms.

- **Tow (or push) a diver for 100 metres/yards nonstop, at the surface, without assistance using monofin (mermaid tail)**
 - **Demonstrate the rescue of an unresponsive, nonbreathing mermaid diver at the surface and tow the victim for at least 50 metres/yards using monofin**
- 4. Demonstrate the following skills with role-model quality with a PADI Mermaid Instructor or Instructor Trainer:**
- **Proper breathing technique before, during and after a dive**
 - **A vertical, headfirst duck dive, from the surface in water too deep in which to stand**
 - **An efficient dolphin kick underwater while maintaining directional control**
 - **Backward somersault turn**
 - **Underwater hand shaking (team combination movement)**
 - **Mermaid bubble**
 - **Back glide**
- 5. Assist a current, Teaching status Mermaid Instructor or Instructor Trainer with at least one Discover Mermaid program and two Confined Water Session 1s from the Mermaid course**

PADI Mermaid Instructor™

Individuals qualify for the PADI Mermaid Instructor ratings either by attending a PADI Mermaid Instructor Training Course or PADI Mermaid Instructor Orientation.

Prerequisites

1. **18 years old**
2. **PADI Advanced Mermaid (or qualifying certification) or proof of mermaid diving experience with 15 mermaid diving sessions, including three or more open water mermaid sessions**
3. **EFR Primary and Secondary Care training (or qualifying) within the last 24 months**
4. **Current medical statement signed by a physician within the previous 12 months**

Exception: Current PADI Instructor or PADI Freediver Instructor

Certification Requirement

Option 1

- **Complete the PADI Mermaid Instructor Course**
OR
- **PADI Freediver Instructor with demonstration-quality proficiency in mermaid skills**

Option 2

- **Qualifying Mermaid Instructor certification**
- **Complete a PADI Mermaid Instructor Orientation**
- **Taught or assisted with two courses that qualify as meeting PADI Mermaid course requirements, or assisted with one PADI Mermaid course**

PADI Mermaid Instructor Trainer

Individuals qualify as PADI Mermaid Instructor Trainers by attending a PADI Mermaid Instructor Trainer Course/Orientation, or by applying directly to their PADI Regional Headquarters.

Prerequisites

1. **18 years old**
2. **EFR Instructor (or qualifying certification)**
3. **Have no verified quality assurance violations within the past 12 months**

Certification Requirements

- **PADI Mermaid Instructor with at least 50 Basic Mermaid certifications and have assisted with at least one Mermaid Instructor Course with a Mermaid Instructor Trainer**
- **Complete a Mermaid Instructor Trainer Course**
OR
- **Have a qualifying mermaid instructor trainer certification and have taught at least five mermaid instructor courses**
- **Complete a Mermaid Instructor Trainer Orientation with PADI Office staff**

Applying Directly to Your PADI Regional Headquarters Prerequisites

1. **Current, Teaching status PADI Freediver Instructor Trainers or PADI Course Directors**
2. **PADI Advanced Mermaid (or qualifying certification)**
3. **Proof of experience training at least five mermaid students in a formal setting as an instructor or assistant**

PADI Public Safety Diver Program Professional Ratings

PADI Public Safety Diver Instructor

Prerequisites

1. PADI Public Safety Diver certification (or qualified certification)
2. PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer
3. PADI Full Face Mask Specialty Instructor
4. PADI Dry Suit Specialty Instructor
5. Any three of the following ratings:
 - PADI Emergency Oxygen Provider Specialty Instructor
 - PADI Ice Diver Specialty Instructor
 - PADI Night Diver Specialty Instructor
 - PADI Search and Recovery Diver Specialty Instructor
 - PADI Self-Reliant Diver Specialty Instructor
 - PADI Underwater Navigator Specialty Instructor
6. EFR Instructor (or qualifying certification)
7. Proof of affiliation with a public safety diver team
8. Proof of Incident Command Training (ICS) Level 100 and 200 (or regional equivalent)

Met one of the following:

1. Complete a Public Safety Diver Instructor Course and provide proof of experience with 10 public safety diver missions
2. Submit proof of certification as public safety diving instructor with another organization and:

- Have issued at least 10 public safety diver certifications
- Have one year public safety diver experience and at least 20 public safety diving missions

PADI Advanced Public Safety Diver Instructor

Prerequisites

1. PADI Public Safety Diver Instructor (or qualified certification)
2. EFR Instructor (or qualifying certification)
3. PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer
4. At least one of the following:
 - 30 public safety diver missions or exercises
 - 15 public safety diver missions and issued at least 15 public safety diver certifications
5. Certified at least 5 PADI Public Safety Divers and 5 PADI Surface Support Specialists

Met one of the following:

1. Complete an Advanced Public Safety Diver Instructor Course
2. Submit proof of certification as an advanced public safety diving instructor with another organization and have proof of teaching or assisting with at least two advanced public safety diver courses, or have assisted with at least one PADI Advanced Public Safety Diver course

PADI Public Safety Diver Instructor Trainer

Requirements

1. PADI Course Director
2. PADI Public Safety Diver Instructor
3. PADI Full Face Mask Specialty Instructor Trainer
4. PADI Dry Suit Specialty Instructor Trainer
5. EFR Instructor Trainer
6. Proof of affiliation with a public safety diver team
7. Have at least 50 public safety diver missions or exercises
8. Assisted with at least one Public Safety Diver Instructor Course
9. Certified at least:
 - 15 PADI Public Safety Divers or Advanced Public Safety Divers
 - 15 PADI Surface Support Specialists

PADI Advanced Public Safety Diver Instructor Trainer

Requirements

1. PADI Public Safety Diver Instructor Trainer
2. PADI Advanced Public Safety Diver Instructor
3. EFR Instructor Trainer
4. Proof of affiliation with a public safety diver team
5. Proof of Incident Command Training (ICS) Level 700 (USA and territories with USA operational guidelines, or relevant regional equivalent)

- 6. Have at least 60 public safety diver missions or exercises with proof of experience in boat based operations and vehicle-related victim rescue/recovery**
- 7. Assisted with at least one Advanced Public Safety Diver Instructor Course**
- 8. Certified at least 15 PADI Advanced Public Safety Divers**