



SSI's New Professional Diver Ratings

Dive Guide

Dive Guides can lead certified divers on dives and can teach Snorkeling courses after passing the Snorkel Instructor module. To begin the program you must be 18, have a current medical signoff, be an Advanced or Master Diver, have 40 dives and 25 hours bottom time, have experience in navigation, night, deep, and boat diving, and have completed the stress & rescue course. The course requires you to:

- purchase training materials
- pass swimming and scuba skills evaluations
- own professional-quality scuba gear
- attend open water observation and internship events
- complete the Equipment Techniques and Nitrox specialty courses
- have 50 or more logged dives and 32 or more hours bottom time
- provide current certifications in CPR, First Aid, and Oxygen Administration
- pass the final exam
- purchase liability insurance



Dive Master

Divemasters can conduct Try Scuba programs and can assist with classroom and pool teaching under the direct supervision of an SSI Instructor. To begin the program you must be 18, have a current medical signoff, be a Dive Guide, and have 50 dives and 32 hours bottom time. The course requires you to:

- purchase training materials
- complete the Science of Diving specialty program
- pass the final exam
- provide current certifications in CPR, First Aid, and Oxygen Administration
- have 60 or more logged dives and 40 or more hours bottom time
- maintain liability insurance



Dive Control Specialist (DiveCon)

A DCS can teach class and pool sessions with indirect supervision and assist with open water training under direct supervision; conduct Scuba Skills Update, Snorkeling, and Try Scuba programs; and upgrade to the Training Specialist rating, which allows a DCS to teach a limited number of specialty courses. To begin the course you must be 18, have a current medical signoff, be a Dive Master, and have 60 dives and 40 hours bottom time. The course requires you to:

- purchase training materials
- pass swimming and scuba skills evaluations
- attend classroom, pool, and open water observation and internship events
- pass the final exam
- provide current certifications in CPR, First Aid, and Oxygen Administration
- have 75 or more logged dives and 50 or more hours bottom time
- maintain liability insurance
- assist with two open water diver courses as an apprenticeship



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