



NAUI Public Safety Diver

OVERVIEW

This is a continuing education certification course for Certified SCUBA Divers who desire knowledge and training in Public Safety Diving. This course emphasizes safety, knowledge, skills, abilities; and risk, incident, and resource management with practical applications. This course is also designed specifically to provide Public Safety Divers with training, knowledge and skills necessary to assist them during underwater Search, Rescue and Recovery activities. NAUI 'Public Safety Diver' is an entry-level course into Public Safety Diving for current or future members of a PSD team.

QUALIFICATIONS OF GRADUATES

Graduates of this course are considered competent to participate in Public Safety Diving activities, provided those PSD activities engaged in, and the diving environment approximate those in which the diver has received PSD training.

WHO MAY TEACH

- Any active-status NAUI Instructor who:
 - Is certified as a NAUI Public Safety Diver.
 - Must have and use the NAUI PSD Instructor Guide during all NAUI PSD Courses
 - Has at least three years PSD Dive Team experience
 - Completed the NAUI Public Safety Diver Application.
 - Authorizations to teach NAUI PSD Courses shall only be awarded by the NAUI Training Department upon completion of all requirements established by the NAUI Board of Directors.

PREREQUISITES FOR ENTERING THE COURSE

- **Age.** 18 years of age
- **Certification / Experience / Knowledge.**
 - NAUI SCUBA Diver or equivalent
 - NAUI Advanced SCUBA Diver or equivalent
 - NAUI First Aid for Diving Professionals or equivalent

- **Dive Team Membership: Applicant should be a member of a “Dive Team.”**
 - Applicant’s names on a current “Dive Team Roster.”
 - A signed letter from one the “Dive Teams Officers” stating the applicant is a member.
 - Applicants not yet assigned to a dive team or maybe applying to a public safety dive team, members attending fire/police academy (privately), and department members looking to apply to a dive team will be considered.
 - PSD Instructors can interview and accept any diver wishing to enroll in a NAUI PSD course on a case-by-case basis.

- **At least 20 logged dives**
 - Written documentation (log book) is required to be presented to the instructor for verification by each applicant

- **Equipment.** Student / Agency shall be responsible for providing all required equipment, and the care and maintenance of their diving equipment during the course.
 - Any SCUBA diving equipment may be inspected by the instructor to ensure the scuba diving equipment will be sufficient for student to complete all aspects of their training.
 - Full Face Masks (FFM) and Dry Suits are important pieces of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in most of Public Safety Diving. NAUI PSD candidates who have, and wish to use, a Full Face Mask and/or Dry Suit during NAUI PSD training are encouraged to do so, and will be allowed to do so provided:
 1. They show prior proof of training/certification for FFM and/or Dry Suits.
 - or -
 2. They are concurrently enrolled in a NAUI Full Face Mask and/or Dry Suit course while attending the NAUI PSD course.

- **Medical Approval.** Unconditional approval for diving by a licensed physician within the preceding three months, before the course or in water training occurs, as documented on a NAUI Medical Evaluation and Physician Approval Form.

COURSE POLICIES

- **Ratios:** Standard ratios apply (see “Policies Applying to All Courses”)

- **Hours:** 40 hours are estimated.
 - This includes classroom sessions, self-study time, confined water sessions, open water sessions, on-site discussions, briefing and debriefings as necessary to prepare for, or conclude, any dive's activity in confined or open water.

- **Confined Water Dive:** At least one confined water training session is required to allow students to demonstrate their competency and proficiency in any skill(s) in which the instructor may require. In addition all new PSD skills should be introduced in confined water.

- **Open Water Dives:** A series of open water dives are required. Additional dives may be required depending on the dive locations, types of dives and skills required for each dive.
 - At least one of the required dives are to be:
 - In a limited visibility body of water (less than 10 feet visibility or simulated with a blacked out mask).
 - Using Search Patterns with a Dive Tender to locate a specific object underwater.
 - Perform a "Rescue" of another diver underwater.

 - Students are required to successfully complete all of the skill requirements for each of the required dives assigned by the instructor. The instructor may require additional dives as necessary to complete a specific task.

 - Ocean, lake, pond, stream, river, limited visibility, dark water, current, silt-conditions; and working around obstacles and entanglement hazards underwater are examples of the types of dives, which should be used in training.

 - Student should rotate through, participate in and demonstrate proficiency in various Public Safety Diver (PSD) Incident Command System (ICS) positions during the course:
 - Primary Diver
 - Safety Diver
 - 90% Ready Diver
 - Dive Group Supervisor
 - Line Tender
 - Recorder/Scribe
 - Equipment/Support Technician

 - Students should serve at least one time during the course as:
 - Supervisor
 - Line Tender

- Recorder/Scribe
 - Equipment/Support Technician
- Students should participate in a minimum of five (5) dives during the course.
- For the purpose of the PSD Course, a “dive” is defined as breathing from SCUBA in a Confined or Open Water at any depth or time, when the assigned task or skills are completed.
- Students who are assigned to PSD-ICS positions during a scenario/rotation, but who do not end-up diving, shall be given credit for serving in that role and shall log it as training.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The following topics should be covered in the academic portion of the training:

- Public Safety Diver academic topics:
 - Public Safety Diving (defined)
 - Incident Command System (ICS)
 - Multi-Agency Operations
 - Mutual Aid (Fire-Rescue)
 - Assist Outside Agency (Law Enforcement)
 - Communications, on land
 - Dive Team Member Assignments
 - Who does this and why?
 - Additional dive team agencies arriving at a scene deployment
 - Record Keeping
 - For diving equipment used in PSD activities
 - On-Scene Records
 - Audio Recordings (recorded by departments)
 - Video & Photographs
 - Personnel on scene roster
 - Anything which “may be” required in any legal action
 - Liability
 - Workers Compensation/OSHA
 - Family & Media Relations

- Operational SOP vs. SOG
 - Legal Issues of each
- PSD Fatalities / Case Studies
- Appropriate regulations, standards, etc.
- Risk vs. Benefits:
 - Rescue vs Recovery
- Mechanics/Misconceptions of Drowning
- First Aid for Water Emergencies
- Diving Risks:
 - Air loss
 - Reserve Air/Redundant Air Supply (diver carried)
 - Entanglement
 - Entrapment
 - Equipment Failure
 - Assume all water is Contaminated unless proven different
 - Overhead environments
 - Local Risks
- Contaminated Environments
 - Planning
 - Equipment
 - Recognition
 - Decontamination Procedures
- Diving in:
 - Low Visibility
 - Black Water
 - Night Operations
 - Cold Water
 - Warm Water
 - Current/Moving Water
- PSD Health and Wellness
 - Medical Evaluations for Divers
 - Rehabilitation Area (RE-HAB)
 - Psychological Consideration of PSD Diving (PTSD)

- Communication, in-water
 - Surface Hand Signals
 - Underwater Hand Signals
 - Rope Signals
 - Voice communication (FFM)

- Underwater Search Patterns
 - Tethered Diving
 - Tender Duties
 - Line Signals
 - Shore-based
 - Arc/Sweep
 - Parallel
 - Diver-based
 - Expanding Square
 - U-pattern
 - Jack Stay
 - Boat-based
 - Search patterns
 - Boat safety

- Light Salvage
 - Lift bags

- Types of PSD Equipment
 - Dry Suits
 - Full Face Mask (with voice communications)
 - Cutting Tools (two types minimum)
 - Surface Marker Buoy
 - Tow Sleds
 - Metal Detectors
 - SONAR
 - Surface Air Supply
 - ROV
 - Depth finders

- Dive Planning

- Dive Briefings and Debriefings

- Crime Scene Considerations

- Continuing Education
 - Skills maintenance
 - Additional NAUI PSD courses

SKILL REQUIREMENTS

Confined Water. Students will be required to properly demonstrate the minimum following skills before proceeding to open water activities:

- Swim underwater 25 yards (23 meters) on one breath; no dive or push-off
- Swim 450 yards (412 meters) nonstop demonstrating at an intermediate level at least two strokes continually throughout the swim.
- Survival swim for 20 minutes (e.g. floating, treading).
- Proper Buoyancy Control
- SCUBA Diver rescue skills
- Share air as both Donor and Receiver from Octopus or other acceptable alternate air source. (not Buddy Breathing).
- Any other skills the instructor(s) deems necessary for the course and conditions

Open Water. Students are to demonstrate their competency in the following skills:

- Proper Communications
- Proper Buoyancy Control
- Low Visibility Diving (Less than 10 feet visibility or simulated)
- Light Salvage Skills
- Underwater Navigation
- Tethered Diving
- Tender Duties
- Underwater Rope Signals (as Tender and Diver)
- Underwater Search Patterns
- Underwater Field Sketch and Measurements
- Assist with one Pre-Dive Briefing
- Assist with one Post-Dive Debriefing
- Properly Logging a PSD Dive a Log Book/Sheet
- Any additions skills required by instructor

COMPLETION/GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Students must score at least 80% on final examination
- Successfully completion of all practical skills assigned by instructor