

# Dive Master Course Outline

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**Congratulations on your decision to become a PADI Divemaster.** Of all the certifying agencies PADI is the largest, offers you the most support and is the most widely recognized. Most dive shops and resorts require their dive industry employees to be a PADI Professional.

**The course consists of three modules,** diving skills assessment, academic learning, and internship. You must complete all three modules to a reasonable level of proficiency before you may become a Divemaster.

**Module One** assesses, and if necessary, remediates the candidates' general diving skill level including peak performance buoyancy. You must demonstrate adequate diving skills before you may proceed to module three.

**Module Two** academic is designed to increase the candidate's diving theory knowledge to a higher level through the use of independent study and written exams.

You will take eight required written exams, covering the following topics:

Divemaster Conducted Programs, Supervising Certified Divers, Assisting with Student Divers in Training, Physics, Physiology, Equipment, Skills and Environment, The Recreational Dive Planner. The first three exams must be successfully completed before starting your internship. The remaining five exams may be taken anytime. The information for these exams may be found through self-guided study in the current Divemaster Manual, The Encyclopedia of Recreational Diving, and the Diving Knowledge Workbook. The Divemaster Manual has Knowledge Reviews that must be completed and turned in as well. All exams are 20 questions and have a minimum passing score of 75%.

**Module Three, the internship is most important** and involves the Divemaster candidate in actual training and supervisory situations under the direction of a PADI Instructor. There is lots of coaching and feedback given during these sessions, with the intent of making the candidate a more informed and better dive leader. You will assist your instructor with students, practice the demonstration of skills, notice potential problems before they happen, correct and guide new students, and assist with Open Water Diver academics. Have a happy encouraging attitude, you are here to help and make diving more enjoyable for the students. New divers will look up to you, and experienced divers will want to dive with you.

Module 3 Internship: (more than the minimum sessions may be required)

- Assist with 4 PADI Open Water course pool sessions.
- Assist with 4 PADI Open Water Dive training sessions.
- Assist with 1 PADI Advanced Open Water, Rescue, or Specialty Diver course open water training session (conducted from a dive boat).
- Assist with 3 additional open water training sessions from any PADI course or program.
- One supervisory situation with certified divers not in a formal course.
- Assist with 2 academic Open Water classes.
- Complete an underwater map of a dive site assigned by your instructor.
- Complete an emergency assistance plan for that dive site.
- Lastly, candidates will conduct under instructor's supervision a real or simulated program that certified Divemasters could conduct. This may be a Discover Local Diving, Scuba Review, Skin Diver Course, or Discover Snorkeling.

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**The following are the recommended steps to efficiently complete your PADI Divemaster training:**

- Get a Medical form signed by your physician before starting anything else. You will need this to apply for Divemaster from PADI
- Make arrangements with me to complete the required waterman ship and stamina skills. Keep a record of your completed skills. These consist of the following:
  - 400-yard swim (goal: in under 10 minutes)
  - 800-yard mask, snorkel, and fin swim (goal: in less than 17 minutes)
  - 100 yard tired diver tow (goal: in less than 4 minutes)
  - 15 minute tread water (last two minutes hands out of the water)You will be awarded points for each of these skills (except the tread) based on the time it takes for you to complete each swim. Your goal is to accumulate 12 total points for all these skills.
- You will be required to perform a simulated rescue of an unresponsive non-breathing diver. This is the same rescue you performed in your PADI Rescue Diver class. I suggest you practice every time you enter the water. When you are ready, ask me to evaluate (grade) you on this skill. You will do this at the beginning and end of course. (*IDC requirement*)
- You will be required to demonstrate to the instructor the 20 basic skills from the PADI Open Water Diver Course. I suggest you purchase the Confined Water teaching slates, and review your PADI Open Water Diver manual and video before this assessment. (*IDC requirement*)
- You will be required to complete a problem solving assessment, which consists of the following: You and a buddy will start in the shallow end on the pool. You will then start to buddy-breathe, sharing one air source. While buddy-breathing, you and your buddy will swim to the deep end of the pool, where you will exchange tanks/BCDs, masks, and fins. Exposure suits and weights do not get exchanged. Once all gear has been exchanged, you will swim to the shallow end of the pool to complete the skill. The buddy team is allowed 5 minutes to discuss and practice this assessment before starting.

**All Divemaster candidates are required to have the following equipment:**

All Personal SCUBA gear including, exposure suit, timing device and depth gauge or dive computer, compass, knife or diver's cutting tool, whistle or signaling device, emergency first aid kit, save a dive kit, and underwater writing slate, wreck reel, and PADI dive tables.

**Required Training Materials:**

- PADI Divemaster Manual \$20
- Encyclopedia of Recreational Diving \$20
- Diving Knowledge Workbook \$20
- Recreational Dive Planner (Dive Tables), Wheel and Table versions
- Confined Water (pool) Teaching slates
- Logbook (You must log and have a PADI instructor verify a minimum of 40 dives.)

**Recommended Candidate Materials:**

- PADI Instructor Manual (mandatory for DMs continuing to Instructor)
- Open Water Teaching Slates (mandatory DMs continuing to Instructor)
- Dive Roster
- Skill Evaluation Cue Card

At the completion of the course, we will submit to PADI the Divemaster application form and the medical form. Divemaster insurance cost about \$130 per year. PADI Divemaster Application cost \$62.