

Scientific Diving

Guidelines to Occupational Scientific Diving with the University of Auckland, under the auspices of SDNZ (Science Diving New Zealand)



UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Waipapa Taumata Rau
NEW ZEALAND



**SCIENCE
DIVING**
NEW ZEALAND

As of February 2024, all scientific divers are required to have a Certificate of Competency (CoC) in the Scientific Diving category

➤ In summary, the pathway is:

- A digital certification will be issued by SDNZ
 - This will be set at the diver's level of experience and training
 - It is based on a combination of prior recreational dive training & experience, annual/biennial certs (e.g. medical, first aid, oxygen), practical training and in-house theory
 - There are annual proficiency reviews associated with keeping the digital certs current (swim test & skills refreshers)
 - Divers will have different max depth limits based on training
 - Specific training will apply to certain skills (microcredentials)
- This digital certification (from SDNZ), a letter of reference from the UoA DSO, some recent logs and an occupational dive medical is to be sent to WorkSafe who will then issue a CoC, enabling the diver to dive occupationally (in scientific) throughout SDNZ organisations around NZ
 - Renewed every five years

Prerequisites before starting UoA scientific dive program

Occupational Dive Medical (renew annually)

Emergency Oxygen Provider (renew biennially)

First Aid/CPR (renew biennially)

Recreational Dive Training

- Open Water Certification
- Advanced Open Water Certification
 - It will save further training if divers as part of Adv OW take the Specialty Courses: Night Dive, Deep Dive, UW Navigation, Search & Recovery, Peak Performance Buoyancy
- Rescue Diver Certification
- *Masters students need Divemaster, AAUS or equivalent
- **We do not take undergraduate students into the program

Experience

- It is good to put what you have learned in recreational diving courses into practice, thus we encourage some diving beyond the training courses (i.e. recreational diving). Therefore, we set a minimum number of logged dives at 20.

Theory & Practical Training at UoA

In-house theory training modules

- Covers aspects of dive physiology, health & safety, legislation and university dive policies
- Resources readily available
- Divers with Rescue diver as highest qual (modules 1-9)
- Divemaster or higher (modules 1-3, 9)

Practical experience (in-house and/or external)

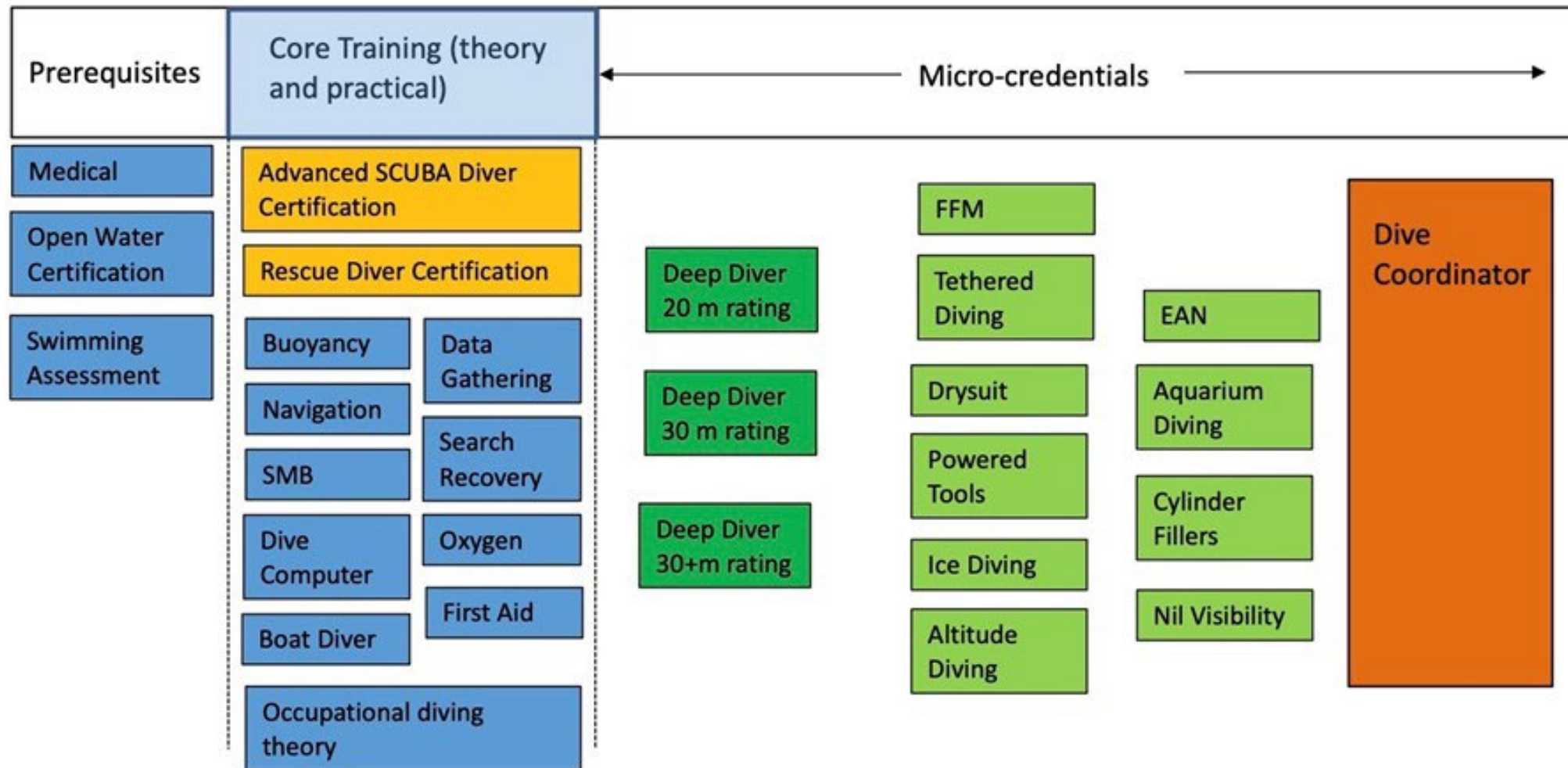
- Induction
- Swim test
 - Equivalent within prior 12 months accepted
- Minimum of 16* training dives to get CoC and be a 10m** diver
- Exact # based on prior dive experience
- *some recreational training can be credited towards this
- **more dive training required to gain deeper limits

Tiered Diver Level Model

The idea behind the new changes mean:

- A diver's training should adequately reflect the level of risk associated with the type of diving and equipment used
- It should make it easier to get new divers diving in a place of work, and they can build experience and training over time
- Specialist equipment use or techniques can be targeted with micro-credential training

SDNZ Training Pathway is now live!





For specifics of what competencies, skills and training is required for each Diving Categories & Microcredentials, see:

SDNZ Minimum Requirements

The UoA Scientific Diving Manual



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