

# THE SCUBA PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION DIVE SCHOOL™

[WWW.SCUBAedu.com](http://WWW.SCUBAedu.com)

PO Box 70925 Chevy Chase MD 20813-0925 TEL 301-657-2266

## Course Description & General Information for SCUBA Diving Certification Classes

This course has been customized and adapted specifically for the busy professional with limited time and scheduling flexibility.

The **Open Water SCUBA Certification Course** (entry level) consists of three parts: pool sessions, classroom sessions and open water check out dives. As pool and classroom sessions are time consuming, it is recommended that they be completed before, not during your vacation. The course meetings last approximately 3 ½ hours: about 1 hour in the pool (conducted in heated pools) and 2 hours in the classroom. The final requirement for certification includes the actual dives in open water, which can be completed any time, after successful completion of the pool and classroom sessions, during your next vacation.

### **COURSE MEETINGS:**

There are four options available for scheduling your course meetings:

- 1) **WEEKNIGHT** meetings, which meet two nights a week from 7:00pm to approximately 10:00 pm, for a total of 6 meetings over 3 weeks. Students decide on which two nights of the week they prefer to meet during the first scheduled meeting. As there are sometimes two sets of classes being held simultaneously per week (on alternate nights) you may make-up a missed class by attending an alternate session that week.
- 2) **WEEKEND** meetings are conducted during 3-day holiday weekends or on select 2 consecutive weekends dates throughout the year, meeting from 9am to approximately 8:30pm on the first day and from 10am to approximately 8:30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> days, with a 1-hour lunch break, each day.
- 3) **SELF-STUDY** courses allow students to work around their schedules when classroom attendance is not possible. The student may pick up the text book/video material from the instructor and study/view on his/her own before taking the written quizzes/final exam and participating in the pool training along with the pool portion of a scheduled calendar course.
- 4) **PARTIAL** courses enable the student to follow our “self-study “ course option (above) without attending the pool sessions, if an upcoming trip deadline does not allow him/her to participate in the pool training and attend the classroom meetings. Upon completion, the student will receive a “partial referral” certificate, which will allow him/her to complete the pool portion during an upcoming trip prior to the open water dives.

**REGISTRATION:** It is highly recommended but not required to pre-register for Weeknight Courses; however, Weekend Courses fill quickly and as class size is limited, you are required to pre-register by making a deposit of \$150 per person, applicable to your course fee. Your deposit is non-refundable but may be applied to a future course if you inform us of your cancellation within 7- days prior to the first class session.

**ORIENTATION:** Free of charge, lasts 1½ hours. Attendance is highly recommended though not required as: a) important information regarding the course is presented in detail; b) valuable tips and information on skin diving gear selection on our discounted (mask, snorkel, fins, booties and weight belt) is presented which is not covered during regular class meetings. It is not necessary to sign up for attending the orientation or to bring swimsuits or equipment with you. Please do not purchase any diving equipment before attending the orientation. A schedule of future course orientation dates is provided for your convenience. You are invited to bring along friends and family.

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**LOCATIONS:** Orientations & class meetings are held in: **Chevy Chase** (Friendship Heights)- 4600 North Park Avenue, Suite #111 near Friendship Heights metro. (Red Line).

**PRE-REQUISITE:** Minimum age is 12 and basic swimming ability is required.

**CERTIFICATION:** Students successfully completing all academics and confined water work will qualify to receive PADI, YMCA, and CMAS Open Water SCUBA Diving certifications. These certifications are valid worldwide for buying air, renting dive gear, and participating in group/private dive expeditions. Your certification card does not expire and needs no renewal.

**EQUIPMENT:** All major SCUBA gear is supplied for the course except personal gear (mask, snorkel, fins, fin booties and weight belt). Your personal gear **MUST BE SCUBA** rated and meet your instructors approval. For your convenience, a large selection of diving equipment is available for purchase at discounted prices on the premises. As a service, the first 3 hours of every course is dedicated to helping our students get fitted for the gear they need to buy.

**ENROLLMENT COST:** \$295 for lecture/self -study courses, \$150 for partial courses. Includes pool and classroom use and the use of all major SCUBA gear, for the duration of the course: tanks, air fills, regulators, gauges and BCD jackets. Payment/balance is due at the first meeting.

**OPEN WATER CERTIFICATION DIVES:** Required for certification. Three options for completing required open water dives are to: a) complete the dives locally over two half-days on a weekend; b) join SPE Dive School, LLC on a Cayman Island trip (described below) at a time suitable to your schedule; c) complete the dives on your personal vacation at your preferred destination by obtaining a *student referral form* from your instructor.

**CARIBBEAN & OPEN WATER CHECKOUT DIVE TRIPS:** A certification dive trip to Grand Cayman Island is offered monthly at the end of each course for those who would like to complete their open water dives in the *ultimate environment*. In addition to Grand Cayman Island, other Caribbean trips with the FOMP Dive Club™ are offered a few times a year. Cayman trips depart Washington, DC on Fridays (you must arrive in Grand Cayman before 1 PM) and you may return as early as Sunday or stay as long as you wish. A schedule of future trips is available on the “calendar” page of SCUBAedu.com for your reference. Friends and family members are always welcome to attend, regardless of whether they dive or not.

**ADVANCED & SPECIALTY SCUBA CERTIFICATIONS:** Offered during all Grand Cayman Island trips. After completion of dives required for open water certification, you may continue diving towards higher certification levels such as advanced open water, rescue diver, Nitrox, underwater photography, deep diver, night diver, wreck diver, research diver, etc. **NOTE:** Most students choose to complete requirements for open water *and* advanced open water certification during the Cayman Island weekend trips as it is easily incorporated into the dive schedule. A Sunday stay is required in order to complete the advanced certification training.

**INSTRUCTOR & ADDITIONAL INFO:** All levels of SCUBA course training are directly supervised by SPE Dive School, LLC Director, Mike Parker, certified master instructor, with full time and active instructor trainer ratings from PADI, YMCA & CMAS international certifying agencies (credentials & biography available upon request). For additional information, please visit us at [www.SCUBAedu.com](http://www.SCUBAedu.com) , email: info@SCUBAedu.com, or call us at 301-657-2266.

**PRIVATE CLASSES & DIVE TRIPS:** Are available for individuals, families or groups, conducted at your preferred location and schedule by appointment only.