

SPE Dive School, LLC



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Course Description & General Information for SCUBA Diving Certification Classes

Our SCUBA diving courses and dive trips have been customized and adapted specifically for the busy professional with limited time and scheduling flexibility.

The **Open Water SCUBA Certification Process** (entry level) consists of three parts: pool training, classroom sessions and open water certification dives. As pool and classroom meetings are time consuming, it is recommended that they should be completed before, not during your vacation. Approximately 2/3 of the total course meeting time is spent in the classroom and 1/3 in our heated indoor pool. The final requirement for certification includes the actual 4 dives in open water, which must be completed within 12 months, 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) WEEKEND COURSES at the pool are conducted from 3PM to approximately 7:30PM on select weekends. The academics portion is conducted on one-on-one basis (by an appointment) at our facility during the week from 12PM until 7PM.

2) WEEKNIGHT CLASSES, which meet two or three nights a week from approximately 7PM to approximately 10 PM, for a total of 6 meetings over 2 or 3 weeks. Students decide on which two or three nights of the week they prefer to meet, during the first scheduled meeting.

3) SELF-STUDY & ONLINE COURSES allow for students to work around their schedules when classroom attendance is not possible. The student may pick up/purchase the manual and DVD 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: Is required for all courses. Since classes usually fill quickly and as class size is limited, you are **required to register** by making a course training payment of \$495 per person. Your payment is non-refundable but may be applied towards a future course if you inform us of your cancellation at least 7 days prior to the first class session.

ORIENTATION: Free of charge, lasts 2 hours. **Attendance is required before participation 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 available on the "Calendar" page of: www.SCUBAedu.com. You are invited to bring along friends and family members.

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LOCATION: Orientations & class meetings are held at our **Chevy Chase** (Friendship Heights) facility, located at: **4601 North Park Avenue, Suite #13-C** near **Friendship Heights Metro**.

PRE-REQUISITE: 12 years of age, basic swimming ability, and good health required.

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

EQUIPMENT: All major SCUBA gear is supplied for the course, except personal gear (mask, snorkel, fins, fin-booties and weights + belt). Your personal gear **MUST BE SCUBA-RATED** and meet your instructor's approval. For your convenience, a large selection of diving equipment is available for purchase at discounted prices on the premises.

ENROLLMENT COST: \$495 for lecture/self -study courses, \$195 for partial courses (no pool). Includes pool and classroom training, use of all major SCUBA gear, for the duration of the course (tanks, air fills, regulators, gauges + BCD jackets) as well as PADI open water referral document.

OPEN WATER CERTIFICATION DIVES: Required for certification. There are three options for completing required open water dives: 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 PADI *referral document 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 12:00PM) 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 www.SCUBAedu.com for your reference. Friends/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's Director/founder, Mike Parker, certified master instructor, with full time and active instructor trainer ratings from PADI, SEI & CMAS international certifying agencies (credentials & biography available upon request). For additional information, please visit us at 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 scheduled by appointment only.