



# Tertiary Dive Training

## Frequently asked questions

### 1. Do I need to know how to dive before the course?

No. We will teach you right from the beginning, starting with basic snorkeling, skin diving and scuba skills.

### 2. What days are courses held?

Full time courses are Mon to Thu each week with some evenings required to complete night dives. Part time courses are usually 2 weekends (Sat/Sun) per month and a few evenings required for class sessions or night dives.

### 3. Do I need to be a strong swimmer?

Every student must be able to swim 200m or snorkel 300m and float/tread water for 10mins. Professional level divers and above will need to be relatively strong swimmers.

### 4. What equipment must I have?

This depends on the course you are enrolling on. Diploma students are required to own their own full snorkeling package; this must include a suitable wetsuit/drysuit, mask/snorkel/fins, weights and weight belt, gloves/boots, torches, knife etc. Foundation/Leadership students need just a few basics; gloves/boots, weights and weight belt, torches, knife etc.

### 5. How much does the equipment cost?

You can apply for up to \$1000 course related costs to go towards equipment. For the minimum gear required for the Diploma it will cost you approximately \$1500, however can be up to \$2000 if upgrading certain items. As you will be graduating as a professional level diver it is advisable to consider upgrading to avoid having to do this once working as an instructor. For the Foundation and Leadership courses you will be looking at around \$450. Dive Otago has a fully stocked retail area and will give you sound advice at the beginning of your course.

### 6. What are the medical criteria?

All divers in New Zealand require having an RSTC Medical questionnaire completed and signed off by Doctor. Professional divers must obtain an OSH medical if working in New Zealand.

**Dive Otago** - 2 Wharf St Dunedin

03 4664370 email [gopro@diveotago.co.nz](mailto:gopro@diveotago.co.nz)

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**7. If I have asthma can I dive?**

This depends and can only be answered by a qualified Doctor.

**8. Where do you dive?**

Mostly around Dunedin and Otago; sites include Aramoana ship wrecks, Wellers Rock, Otakau Wall, Harrington Point, Fish Reef, Moeraki, Shag Point and more.

**9. Do you dive in winter?**

Yes, our Diploma programmes run over 36 weeks starting in February and August each year. National Certificates also run year round. The equipment you will purchase/rent will be suitable for diving in our local environment throughout the year.

**10. Is it easy to get a job as a dive instructor?**

Yes. There are approximately 5-10 new jobs advertised EVERYDAY on the PADI website alone. These jobs are based in over 180 countries and territories around the world including New Zealand. Dive Otago also has contacts and graduates placed around the globe.

Visit [http://www.diveotago.co.nz/grad\\_placements](http://www.diveotago.co.nz/grad_placements) to see the exotic destinations our graduates have ended up.

**11. Will my qualification be valid worldwide?**

Yes PADI is the world's largest diver training organisation and is active in over 180 Countries and territories.

**12. How old must I be?**

Diploma/Leadership students must be 18yrs old prior to Divemaster and 16yrs old if applying for loans/allowances.

**13. How do I enroll?**

You need to make an appointment with the Tertiary Team for an interview and to complete an application.

**14. Can I try Diving before I apply?**

Yes, if you are seriously considering applying to complete a course but would like to make sure you will like diving then call one of our Go Pro team to arrange a time to have a go in our heated Dive Pool.

**15. Why choose Dive Otago?**

Our tertiary staff have over 17 years combined experience delivering professional level dive training and we pride ourselves on the support we provide each individual student. Our facilities are purpose built for dive training and include an indoor heated dive pool, 3 classrooms and a new dive boat. Our team of professionals is here to make your training successful.

**If you have any further questions call 03 466-4370 to talk to one of our diving career advisers or email [gopro@diveotago.co.nz](mailto:gopro@diveotago.co.nz)**

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