

## Summary of PADI Specialty Diver Courses

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Specialty Course	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Adaptive Support Diver	15	Open Water Diver or Freediver	1 confined water 1 open water workshop	9:1 6:1	Adaptive Techniques Specialty Instructor	10
Adaptive Techniques	18	Divemaster or Master Freediver	2 confined water 2 open water workshops	9:1 6:1	Adaptive Techniques Specialty Instructor	16
Altitude Diver	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Altitude Specialty Instructor	12
AWARE – Dive Against Debris®	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	1 open water dive	8:1	AWARE – Dive Against Debris® Specialty Instructor	8
AWARE – Shark Conservation Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1	AWARE – Shark Conservation Specialty Instructor	12
Boat Diver	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Boat Specialty Instructor	12
Cavern Diver	18	Advanced Open Water Diver	4 open water dives	8:1 3:1**	Cavern Specialty Instructor	24
Coral Reef Conservation	—	—	—	—	Assistant Instructor	4
Deep Diver	15	Adventure Diver	4 open water dives	8:1	Deep Specialty Instructor	24
Delayed Surface Marker Buoy (DSMB) Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1	DSMB Specialty Instructor	12
Digital Underwater Photographer	— 10	— (Junior) Open Water Diver	1 or 2 snorkel dives 1 or 2 open water dives	— 8:1†	Digital Underwater Photo Specialty Instructor	12
Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV) Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1	DPV Specialty Instructor	12
Drift Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1	Drift Specialty Instructor	12
Dry Suit Diver	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	1 confined water 2 open water dives	6:1†	Dry Suit Specialty Instructor	12
Enriched Air Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives (optional)	8:1	Enriched Air Specialty Instructor	6 / 18 with dives
Emergency Oxygen Provider	—	—	—	12:1	Emergency Oxygen Provider Specialty Instructor	3
Equipment Specialist	10	PADI (Junior) Scuba Diver	—	—	Equipment Specialty Instructor	6
Fish Identification Diver	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Fish Identification Specialty Instructor	12
Full Face Mask Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	1 confined water 2 open water dives	8:1	Full Face Mask Specialty Instructor	15
Ice Diver	18	Advanced Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	2:1	Ice Specialty Instructor	24

Continued on next page

## Summary of PADI Specialty Diver Courses (continued)

Specialty Course	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Night Diver	12	(Junior) Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1	Night Specialty Instructor	12
Peak Performance Buoyancy	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Assistant Instructor	12
PADI AWARE Specialist	—	—	—	—	Assistant Instructor or PADI AWARE Specialty Instructor	4
Search & Recovery Diver	12	(Junior) Advanced Open Water Diver+	4 open water dives	8:1	Search & Recovery Specialty Instructor	24
Self-Reliant Diver	18	Advanced Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1	Self-Reliant Specialty Instructor	24
Semiclosed Rebreather Diver (Dolphin/Atlantis)	15	Advanced Open Water Diver++ and Enriched Air Diver	3 open water dives	6:1	Semiclosed Rebreather Specialty Instructor	24
Sidemount Diver	15	Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1	Sidemount Specialty Instructor	12
Underwater Naturalist	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Underwater Naturalist Specialty Instructor	12
Underwater Navigator	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1†	Underwater Navigation Specialty Instructor	12
Underwater Photographer	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	2 open water dives	8:1†	Underwater Photography Specialty Instructor	12
Underwater Videographer	10	(Junior) Open Water Diver	3 open water dives	8:1†	Underwater Videography Specialty Instructor	12
Wreck Diver	15	Adventure Diver	4 open water dives	8:1 2:1**	Wreck Specialty Instructor	24

**Note: Ratios apply to favorable conditions only.** Rough, turbid, very cold water or other circumstances may warrant reduced ratios for student safety. (See Ratios – Student Diver-to-Instructor in this guide.)

† For any open water dive that includes 10–11 year olds, the maximum ratio is 4:1, no more than 2 of the 4 may be age 10 or 11

\*\* Ratio for cavern/wreck penetrations

+ Junior Open Water and Open Water Divers with a PADI Underwater Navigator certification also qualify

++ Open Water Diver with 10 logged dives also qualifies

## Summary of PADI Public Safety Diver Courses

See instructor guides for complete standards.

Course	Min. Age	Prerequisite Certification	Water Training	Ratio	Min. Instructor Rating	Rec. Hours
Public Safety Diver	18	Rescue Diver*	4 open water dives	8:1	Public Safety Diver Instructor	30
Surface Support Specialist	18	EFR provider-level training**	4 surface support sessions	8:1	Public Safety Diver Instructor	30
Advanced Public Safety Diver	18	Public Safety Diver and Rescue Diver	6 open water dives	8:1	Advanced Public Safety Diver Instructor	36

\* Or enrolled in a PADI Rescue Diver course

\*\* Or enrolled in an EFR Primary and Secondary Care course