



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

SISOSCB420A Instruct specialised SCUBA diving skills

Release: 2

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Modification History

Not Applicable

Unit Descriptor

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to instruct specialised SCUBA diving skills. This unit focuses on planning, instructing and evaluating instructional specialised SCUBA diving sessions to enable participants to achieve the skills and knowledge required to participate independently, or with minimal supervision, in an open water SCUBA diving activity.

Application of the Unit

This unit applies to those working as specialised SCUBA diving instructors who conduct specialised SCUBA diving instructional sessions in a range of open water conditions. This may include those working for private dive schools or companies operating at coastal sites or through holiday resorts.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of endorsement.

Pre-Requisites

SISOSCB301A SCUBA dive in open water to a maximum depth of 18 metres

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

1. Plan a specialised SCUBA diving session.

- 1.1. Establish participant's needs and *characteristics*.
- 1.2. Assess participant's current *specialised SCUBA diving* knowledge in order to determine the *session's aims and objectives*.
- 1.3. Determine an appropriate *instructional plan* according to participant's needs and characteristics.
- 1.4. Develop a *specialised SCUBA diving plan* according to participant's needs and characteristics, *industry technical and safety criteria, relevant legislation* and *organisational policies and procedures*.
- 1.5. Identify potential *hazards* associated with specialised SCUBA diving and minimise *risks* according to organisational policies and procedures.
- 1.6. Access *relevant sources* to interpret detailed *weather and environmental information* and determine *contingency plans*.
- 1.7. Establish the need for a dive lookout and or above-water dive supervisor according to conditions, industry technical and safety criteria, relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures.

2. Select and organise equipment and resources.

- 2.1. Select and access specific *equipment* and *resources* for specialised SCUBA diving session according to *contextual issues*, industry technical and safety criteria and organisational policies and procedures, and check serviceability.
- 2.2. Check equipment for safety and suitability according to relevant legislation and manufacturer's recommendations and adjust and fit to ensure personal comfort.
- 2.3. Check contents of first aid and repair kits to ensure suitability to the location and activity.

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
3. Brief participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3.1. Communicate instructions and relevant information about the specialised SCUBA diving session in a manner appropriate to the participants.3.2. Encourage participants to seek clarification, information and feedback as required during the session.3.3. Establish a suitable communication system for participants to use during specialised SCUBA diving.3.4. Inform participants of known and anticipated hazards, <i>safety procedures</i> and appropriate behaviour.3.5. Check and confirm that all participant equipment is fitted and adjusted.
4. Instruct a specialised SCUBA diving session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4.1. Conduct introductory specialised SCUBA diving activities to reduce risk.4.2. Monitor individual participant's performance during specialised SCUBA diving session.4.3. Apply <i>instructional techniques</i> to impart <i>activity specific knowledge, specialised SCUBA diving techniques</i> and <i>safety and rescue procedures</i>.4.4. Demonstrate procedures for dealing with emergency and non-routine situations according to organisational policies and procedures.
5. Complete post-session responsibilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5.1. Inform participants of opportunities to further develop their specialised SCUBA diving skills and knowledge.5.2. Retrieve, inspect, wash, and store equipment according to organisational policies and procedures.5.3. Provide opportunities for participants to identify their personal progress and satisfaction with the session, and give feedback as required.5.4. Evaluate <i>relevant aspects</i> of the specialised SCUBA diving session and determine the level of learning achieved.5.5. Identify potential areas of improvement for future specialised SCUBA diving instructional sessions.

Required Skills and Knowledge

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

- communication skills to:
 - consult with participants to plan an appropriate specialised SCUBA diving session
 - convey information about the safety aspects of the session
 - interact with participants to create a safe and positive environment
- problem-solving skills to:
 - plan specialised SCUBA diving sessions according to participant's needs and characteristics
 - address participant difficulties in developing techniques
 - anticipate and respond appropriately to non-routine situations
- planning and organising skills to:
 - source, allocate and coordinate resources, equipment and a suitable diving site
 - monitor and evaluate progress
 - organise participants into manageable groups or buddy pairs for specialised diving
- language and literacy skills to:
 - produce specialised SCUBA diving and instructional plans for the session
 - complete post-session participant and self evaluations
- personal specialised SCUBA diving skills required for specific specialised dives to a high level of technical correctness to demonstrate and explain techniques to participants
- first aid and emergency response skills appropriate to the location to enable initial response and or rescue in emergencies whilst instructing specialised SCUBA diving.

Required knowledge

- legislation, organisational policies and procedures and industry technical and safety criteria to enable safe and legal conduct of SCUBA diving session
- site specific information to assist in the planning process and enable management of potential specialised dive hazards and any special restrictions applying to the area
- equipment types, characteristics and technology used for SCUBA diving, the advantages and disadvantages of the range of equipment and factors affecting appropriate selection
- instructional techniques and theories applicable to a range of ages and learning abilities
- specialised SCUBA diving techniques and underwater communication systems used between buddy and other divers to reduce risk

- specialist diving knowledge required for specific areas, such as the types and features of underwater photography equipment used during a specialist photography dive
- physics and physiology, such as the direct and indirect effects of pressure and signs, symptoms, prevention and treatment of common SCUBA diving risks such as decompression illness to enable safe performance
- no-decompression dive tables and limits to determine air requirements
- hazards and risks commonly associated with the specific open water specialised SCUBA diving activity
- navigation techniques to avoid getting lost under water
- emergency, first aid and rescue procedures appropriate to the location to ensure risk minimisation to self and group
- minimal impact interactions and techniques to minimise negative impact on aquatic animal and plant life.

Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

Overview of assessment

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Evidence of the following is essential:

- plans and delivers information, explanations and demonstrations for specialised SCUBA diving sessions to ensure activities are conducted safely according to participant's needs and characteristics
- observes and monitors the progress of participants and provides constructive feedback and intervention to improve specialised SCUBA diving technique and performance
- uses and modifies instructional techniques and or activities to cater for a range of individual learning styles
- evaluates and reflects on own instruction performance to identify strengths, weaknesses and areas that need improvement.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Assessment must ensure instruction of specialised SCUBA diving activities that reflect the needs and characteristics of a range of participants to demonstrate competency and consistency of performance

Assessment must also ensure access to:

- a suitable open water SCUBA diving site and controlled location for the conduct of instructional dive sessions
- groups of participants to take part in the specialised SCUBA diving sessions
- a suitable diving boat, if required
- specialised SCUBA diving, navigation, communication, safety, rescue, first aid and teaching equipment
- resources and information regarding participants and location to plan, instruct and document specialised SCUBA diving sessions for a variety of participants.

Method of assessment

A range of assessment methods should be used to assess practical skills and knowledge. The following examples are appropriate for this unit:

- observation of planning processes, such as consulting with participants to determine their needs and

characteristics

- oral or written questioning to assess application of legislation, industry technical and safety criteria and organisational policies and procedures to ensure safe conduct of all specialised SCUBA diving activities
- observation of safe specialised SCUBA diving instruction, monitoring and adjustment according to participant's needs and characteristics
- portfolio of specialised SCUBA diving session plans
- third-party reports from a supervisor detailing performance.

Holistic assessment with other units relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role is recommended.

Range Statement

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

Characteristics may include:

- age
- cultural and situational factors
- previous experience and knowledge
- physical development.

Specialised SCUBA diving may include:

- night diving
- underwater navigation
- altitude diving
- boat diving
- drift diving
- dry suit diving
- multi level diving
- search and recovery diving
- underwater photography
- underwater videography
- wreck diving
- deep diving
- underwater naturalist
- peak performance buoyancy
- computer aided dives
- diving with enriched air nitrox (EANx).

Session's aims and objectives may include:

- developing SCUBA diving skills
- education
- development
- therapy
- fitness targets
- recreation.

Instructional plan may include:

- specialised SCUBA diving activities and drills
- duration of specialised activities and drills.

Specialise SCUBA diving plan may include:

- aims and objectives
- date, time and duration
- location, equipment and resources
- safety requirements.

Industry technical and safety criteria may include:

- British Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC)
- Professional Association of Diving Instructors

- (PADI)
- Relevant legislation*** may include:
- SCUBA Schools International (SSI).
 - occupational health and safety
 - permits or permission for access
 - environmental regulations
 - marine regulations
 - working with children.
- Organisational policies and procedures*** may include:
- occupational health and safety
 - assessment procedures
 - time and budget constraints
 - communication protocols
 - confidentiality of participant information
 - environmental regulations
 - code of ethics.
- Hazards*** may include:
- temperature extremes
 - group management hazards.
 - specialised SCUBA hazards.
- Risks*** may include:
- hypothermia
 - heat exhaustion
 - injuries
 - lost party or party member
 - equipment failure
 - exhaustion
 - near drowning
 - barotrauma
 - nitrogen narcosis
 - contaminated SCUBA air
 - cramps
 - stings or bites from marine creatures
 - Decompression Illness (DCI).
- Relevant sources*** may include:
- Bureau of Meteorology
 - media
 - land managers or agencies
 - coastal patrol or coastguard
 - volunteer marine rescue
 - local knowledge.
- Weather and environmental information*** may include:
- satellite images
 - daily and weekly forecasts
 - maximum and minimum temperatures
 - weather warnings
 - event warnings

- river levels
 - synoptic charts
 - high and low tide predictions.
- Contingency plans*** may include:
- change in weather and water conditions
 - equipment failure.
- Equipment*** may include:
- SCUBA diving equipment
 - safety and rescue equipment
 - specialised equipment
 - navigation equipment
 - communication equipment.
- Resources*** may include:
- clothing
 - food and water
 - teaching aids.
- Contextual issues*** may include:
- weather conditions, including tides
 - season
 - transport
 - location
 - trip distance and duration
 - group objectives
 - group size
 - participant characteristics
 - number of support staff
 - features of dive
 - other divers
- Safety procedures*** may include:
- suitable buddy
 - communication signs and signals
 - in-water supervision
 - safety and rescue equipment.
- Instructional techniques*** may include:
- simple to complex
 - part to whole
 - chronological
 - known to unknown
 - D.E.D.I.C.T.
 - E.D.I.C.T.
 - I.D.E.A.
 - orientate, enhance, synthesise
- Required knowledge*** may include:
- risk and hazard prevention and management
 - safety procedures
 - specialised SCUBA diving techniques
 - communication and buddy systems
 - responsible and safe behaviour.

Specialised SCUBA diving techniques may include:

- videoing
- photography
- dry suit
- computer aided
- wreck dives.

Safety and rescue procedures may include:

- emergency response procedures
- group management in emergency situations
- symptoms, treatment and prevention of common specialised SCUBA diving risks.

Relevant aspects may include:

- objectives
- planning process
- activity site
- equipment selection
- clothing selection
- food selection
- instructional content
- instructional technique
- assessment technique
- group feedback
- directing techniques
- rescue techniques employed.

Unit Sector(s)

Outdoor Recreation

Competency Field

SCUBA