



Dry Suit and Full Face Mask Diving (Encapsulation) Course Objectives

Dry Suit and Full Face Mask (Encapsulation) Diving is Dive Rescue International's renowned three day (24 hour) training program for certified divers and surface support personnel. One of the first steps to preparing for contaminated water or ice diving is learning how to dive in a dry suit and full face mask. This program is conducted in a classroom, pool, and an open-water site to allow students to practice in a controlled environment before field scenarios. Successful completion of this program is measured in class participation, passing a final written exam, and completing in-water skills.

Key training topics and the associated objectives include:

REASONS FOR DIVING IN A DRY SUIT WITH FULL FACE MASK

Define the reasons for using a dry suit including environmental protection and communications
Identify the types of environmental contaminants
Explain the difference between dry suits and wet suits and the advantages of dry suit diving

HISTORY OF DRY SUITS AND FULL FACE MASKS

Describe the materials dry suits were originally constructed of versus current technology
Explore the history of full face masks

CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF DRY SUITS AND FULL FACE MASKS

Discuss the care of dry suits and full face masks and the reasons why they may leak
Explain the proper donning of dry suits and full face masks
Identify diving equipment considerations
Define important features and optional accessories of dry suits and full face masks

PROPER USE OF DRY SUITS AND FULL FACE MASKS

Explain the proper positioning for encapsulation diving
Define emergency procedures for different scenarios during encapsulation diving

PREREQUISITES

All students must be a member of a public safety agency and at least 18 years of age. Students must read and complete a RSTC medical statement prior to attending class. Any diver answering yes to any contraindication must have the form signed by a physician. Diving students must have proof of open water certification.

This program is designed for personnel who are physically fit. Participants are encouraged to participate after successfully completing the IADRS Watermanship Test or testing to a fitness level of 13 MET (Metabolic Equivalents) or greater. Participants with aerobic fitness questions or concerns should consult their physician prior to in-water training.

BE SURE TO BRING

All students must bring: US Coast Guard approved PFD with knife and whistle, adequate clothing and protection from the environment and pen and paper for note-taking and sketching. Diving students must provide their own equipment: Scuba regulator: recently serviced and environmentally protected with alternate air source (i.e.: octopus, Air II, etc.), timing device, depth and submersible pressure gauges, BC with oral/power inflator, two tanks with current Hydro & VIP, full face mask, snorkel, fins, weight belt and two cutting tools (knife, wire cutters, or trauma shears), and dry suit.



Encapsulation Diving

Schedule is subject to change

DAY 1

8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lecture: Reasons for diving Encapsulated: Using Dry Suits, Types of Dry Suits, Dry Suit Valves, Underwear Selection, Dry Suit Accessories, Dry Suit Techniques, Dry suit Maintenance, Dry Suit Repairs, Video: "Dry suit Diving", Full Face Mask Introduction, Selection of the Proper Full Face Mask, Full Face Mask Features, Full Face Mask Techniques, and Full Face Mask Maintenance and Repairs. Students must also pass a Written Exam

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Lunch Break

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Trim Suits for Individual Wear

Pool Exercises:

Dry Suit:

- Use of BC – Surface Flotation
- Descend to Depth – no inflation of suit until "squeeze"
- Adjusting buoyancy to neutrally buoyant
- While neutrally buoyant – use of inflation and deflation valves
- Simulation of inflator valve stuck in open position
- Maintaining near-neutral buoyancy throughout controlled ascent
- Adding air to suit and practicing righting yourself and dumping the suit
- Adding air to suit and practicing flare maneuver
- Weight belt exercise

Full Face Mask:

- Breathing with a Full Face Mask
- Ear Equalization with a Full Face Mask
- Swimming with a Full Face Mask
- Flood and Clear a Full Face Mask
- Remove and Replace a Full Face Mask
- Out of Air Emergencies with a Full Face Mask

Remove and Clean Gear



Encapsulation Diving

Schedule is subject to change

DAY 2

- 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Open Water Exercises:
Dive # 1
Dry Suit:
- Use of BC – Surface Floatation, Buoyancy Control
 - Descend to Depth – no inflation of suit until “squeeze”
 - Adjusting buoyancy to neutrally buoyant
 - While neutrally buoyant – use of inflation and deflation valves
 - Simulation of inflator valve stuck in open position
 - Maintaining near-neutral buoyancy throughout controlled ascent
 - Adding air to suit and practicing righting yourself and dumping the suit
 - Adding air to suit and practicing flare maneuver
 - Weight belt exercise
- Full Face Mask
- Breathing with a Full Face Mask
 - Ear Equalization with a Full Face mask
 - Swimming with a Full Face Mask
 - Flood and Clear a Full Face Mask
 - Remove and Replace a Full Face mask
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch Break
- 1:00-4:00 Dive # 2
Repeat Skills from Dive # 1
Remove and Clean Gear

DAY 3

- 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Open Water Exercises:
Dive # 3
Operational Exercises
- 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Lunch Break
- 1:00-4:00 Dive # 4
Operational Exercises
Remove and Clean Gear