

# Scientific Diving

Guidelines to Occupational Scientific Diving with the University of Auckland, under the auspices of SDNZ (Science Diving New Zealand)



UNIVERSITY OF  
**AUCKLAND**  
Waipapa Taumata Rau  
NEW ZEALAND



**SCIENCE  
DIVING**  
NEW ZEALAND

As of February 2024, all scientific divers are required to have a Certificate of Competency (CoC) in the Scientific Diving category

➤ In summary, the pathway is:

- A digital certification will be issued by SDNZ
  - This will be set at the diver's level of experience and training
  - It is based on a combination of prior recreational dive training, annual/biennial certs (e.g. medical, first aid, oxygen), practical training and in-house theory
  - There are annual proficiency reviews associated with keeping the digital certs current (swim test & skills refreshers)
  - Divers will have different max depth limits based on training
  - Specific training will apply to certain skills (microcredentials)
- This digital certification (from SDNZ), a letter of reference from the UoA DSO and an occupational dive medical is to be sent to WorkSafe who will then issue a CoC, enabling the diver to dive occupationally (in scientific) throughout SDNZ organisations around NZ
  - Renewed every five years

# Prerequisites before diving with UoA

Occupational Dive Medical (renew annually)

Emergency Oxygen Provider (renew biennially)

First Aid/CPR (renew biennially)

Recreational Dive Training

- Open Water Certification
- Advanced Open Water Certification
  - It will save further training if divers as part of Adv OW take the Specialty Courses: Night Dive, Deep Dive, UW Navigation, Search & Recovery, Peak Performance Buoyancy
- Rescue Diver Certification

# Theory & Practical Experience at UoA

## In-house theory training modules

- Covers aspects of dive physiology, health & safety, legislation and university dive policies
- Resources readily available
- Divers with Rescue diver as highest qual (modules 1-9)
- Divemaster or higher (modules 1-3, 9)

## Practical experience (in-house and/or external)

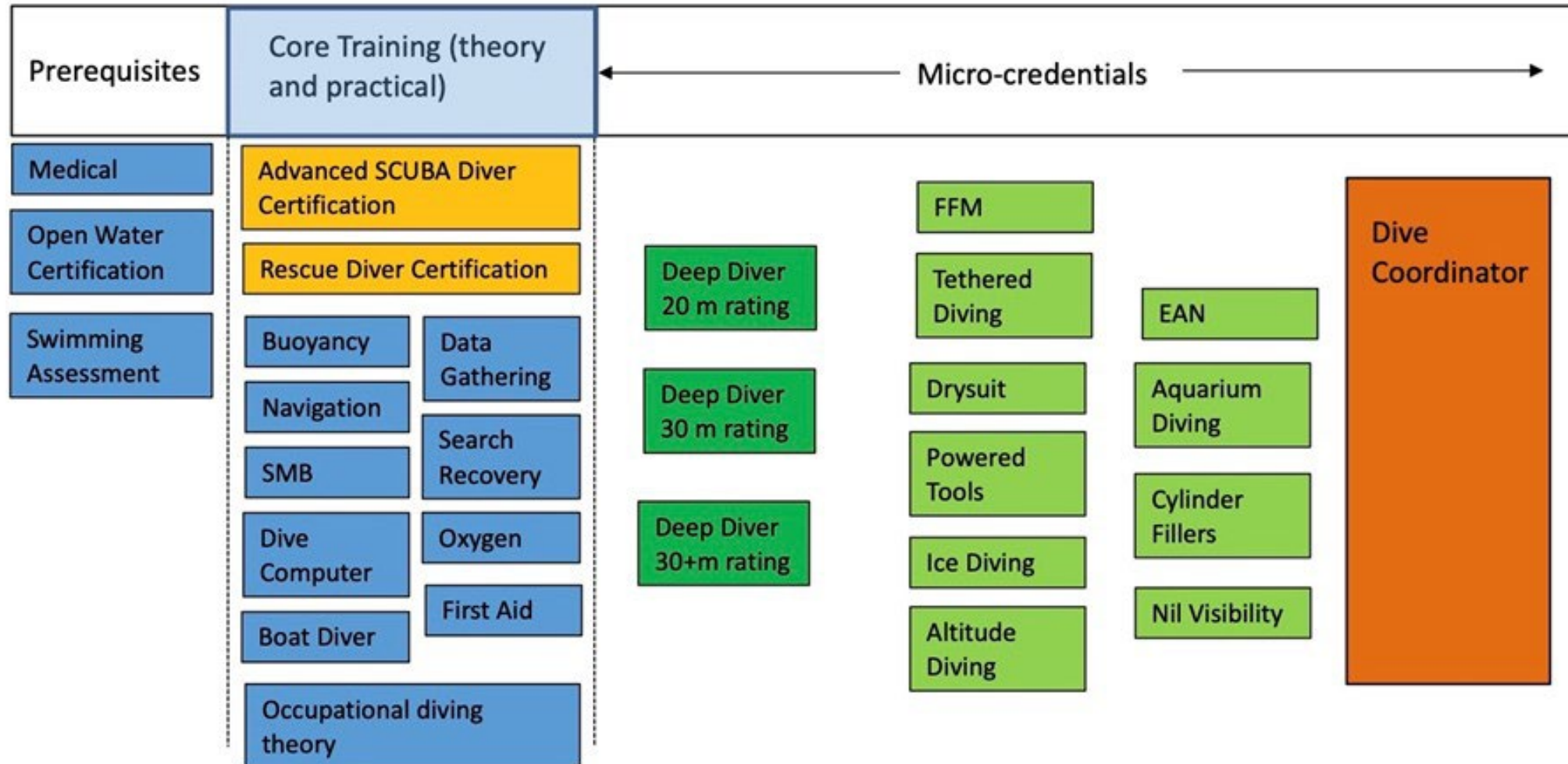
- Induction
- Swim test
  - Equivalent within prior 12 months accepted
- Up to 9\* scientific training dives, exact # based on prior dive experience (i.e. further prior dive training such as divemaster, AAUS etc can reduce in-house training dives)
  
- \*more dive training required to gain deeper limits

# Tiered Diver Level Model

The idea behind the new changes mean:

- A diver's training should adequately reflect the level of risk associated with the type of diving and equipment used
- It should make it easier to get new divers diving in a place of work, and they can build experience and training over time
- Specialist equipment use or techniques can be targeted with micro-credential training
- \*Current CoC divers will usually map across to 30m diver & dive coordinator

# SDNZ Training Pathway is now live!





For specifics of what competencies, skills and training is required for each Diving Categories & Microcredentials, see:

SDNZ Minimum  
Requirements

The UoA Scientific Diving  
Manual



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