

# Open Water Specialties

# Deep Diving

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## I. Intent

The SSI Deep Diving program provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to safely conduct open water dives to depths between 18 and 40 meters.

## II. Minimum Instructor Rating

An active status Deep Diving Specialty Instructor may conduct the Deep Diving specialty program.

## III. Student Prerequisites

- Minimum age | 15 years old.

**Have the following SSI certifications or equivalent from a recognized training agency:**

- Referral Diver

*Note | SSI Referral Divers may enroll in SSI specialty programs and complete all academic and pool/confined water sessions. Open water training dives for all specialties cannot be combined with open water training dives for entry-level programs, and must be conducted after completion of all in-water training for the Open Water Diver program.*

## IV. Duration

- Recommended hours for completion | 10-15.

## V. Depth Limitations

**Open water training dives:**

- Dive 1 | 18 to 30 meters
- Dive 2 | 24 to 30 meters
- Dive 3 | 30 to 40 meters

## VI. In-Water Ratios

**Dives shallower than 30 meters**

- The student-to-instructor ratio is 8:1.
- The ratio may increase to 10:2 with one (1) certified assistant.
- The ratio may increase to 12:3 with two (2) certified assistants.

**Dives deeper than 30 meters**

- The student-to-instructor ratio is 4:1.
- Certified assistants cannot be used to increase ratios.

## VII. Proximity

- During in-water skill evaluations, the students must remain under direct supervision of the SSI Professional so that physical contact can be made at any time.

## VIII. Requirements For Completion

- Complete all academic sessions and assessments outlined in the instructor manual for Deep Diving.
- Complete the program's final exam.
- Complete at least three (3) open water training dives as outlined in the instructor manual for Deep Diving.
- Prior to certification, the student must be certified as an SSI Open Water Diver or equivalent.

## IX. Certification

- Upon completion of all academic and in-water requirements, the SSI Professional may issue the program's digital certification card.
- Certified SSI divers can dive with an equally- or more-qualified buddy in environments equivalent to their training and within the recommended depth limits of their certifications.