

# ADVANCED INSTRUCTOR STANDARDS

ACUC - ADVANCED  
INSTRUCTOR STANDARDS  
V0422

## Points of special consideration

- *This is the third mandatory professional level certification*
- *It can be given by any ACUC ITE once requisites are met*



## Foreword

The ACUC Advanced Instructor is a certification that can be obtained by ACUC Open Water Instructors that meet a series of prerequisites. The main features of this certification are that in addition to doing the same as an ACUC Open Water Instructor, the candidate who obtains this level can also teach but cannot evaluate or certify the ACUC Entry Level Instructor course.

This is an International ACUC standard and therefore it is always subject to different national or local legislations. In cases where the existing legislation differs from this standard, the ACUC Delegation of the country or area, if it exists, must request in writing to the ACUC central office, a "Deviation" from this standard to satisfy the legislation of the area, supporting its demand with the proper documentation. Deviations, if requested, to be considered valid, should appear at the end of each specific standard document.

In cases where local or national legislations are more restrictive than the ACUC standard, then local legislation will prevail, but if the ACUC standard is more restrictive, then the ACUC standard will prevail, because logically fulfilling the more restrictive ACUC standard, the local legislation will also be fulfilled.

## 1. Scope

This standard specifies the minimum competencies that must be achieved by an ACUC Advanced Instructor.

## 2. Definitions

For definitions, please see this [page](#)

## 3. Competencies of a certified, recreational ACUC Advanced Instructor

An ACUC Advanced Instructor shall be trained to have sufficient competencies by knowledge, skill and experience to, in addition of what an Open Water Instructor must know, teach but not evaluate or certify the entry level instructor program. In addition, those ACUC Advanced Instructors, who are also instructors of the following "dry" specialties:

- Diving Emergency Responder (also available in elearning)
- O2 Emergency Responder (also available in elearning)
- Equipment Maintenance
- Nitrox Mixer

Will be able to teach, evaluate and certify other instructors in these specialties. Remember that since these are "dry" specialties (there is no aquatic training), any ACUC Divemaster or higher level can be an instructor for these specialties. ACUC Advanced Instructors shall dive within the following parameters



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- Dive and lead divers to a maximum depth of 40 meters / 130 feet
- Dive and ensure that others dive only when appropriate support is available at the surface,
- Dive and ensure that others dive under conditions that are equal or better than the conditions where they were trained.
- Assist certified divers in new environments which the Advanced Instructor is familiar with.

If accompanied by an ACUC Instructor of superior level, certified ACUC Advanced Instructors may gain progressive experience beyond these parameters (except depth) and develop competency in managing more challenging diving conditions designed to lead to higher qualifications. Where further instruction is required this can only be provided by a suitably qualified ACUC Instructor.

### 4. Prerequisites

To obtain this level according to this standard, the candidate must meet the following prerequisites:

**4.1** Minimum age: 19 years.

**4.2** Health requirements: candidates must pass an appropriate medical examination for recreational diving. Candidates will be advised on the importance of appropriate regular medical examinations.

**4.3** Previous certification: ACUC Open Water Instructor or similar. Must also be an ACUC DER (Diving Emergency Responder) Instructor and an ACUC O2ER (O2 Emergency Responder) Instructor. Please note that it is in the best interest of an Advanced Instructor to be an Instructor of those Non-Restricted specialties (Night Diving, Wreck Diving, U/W Orientation, etc...) which a diver is introduced to in the Advanced Diver course.

Note: ACUC could accept any similar certification of First Aid Instructor, if they include BLS (Basic Life Support) and defibrillator training, from other recognized organizations (although the ACUC exam should be done and the ACUC DER Instructor kit should be obtained), but in the case of Emergency Oxygenation Instructor, ACUC will only recognize DAN or USP certifications and the ACUC O2ER instructor kit should be obtained and the ACUC exam should be done.

### 5. Certification requirements

Candidates may be required by ACUC to complete an aptitude and knowledge test, mainly dealing with standards. In addition to having the specialties mentioned in point 4.3 above, the candidate must have certified a minimum of 20 divers with ACUC, including at least 4 Divemasters, in the last 48 months.

**As an alternative**, if the candidate does not have 20 certified students, the Open Water Instructor candidate, to obtain the Advanced Instructor certification, can also participate as an observer in at least two ACUC Entry Level Instructor or ACUC Open Water Instructor courses offered by an ACUC IT or ITE. Once the candidate has participated as an observer in at least two instructor courses and the IT or ITE, acting as course director issues a favourable report, then the candidate will obtain the Advanced Instructor qualification. The candidate must also have the Instructor specialties mentioned in Section 4.3

**6. Training Dives:** No additional training dives are required for this level.

**7. Deviations:** Deviations only apply to the country or area mentioned

Country or Area	Deviation relating to	Reason	Deviation Approval
South Korea	O2ER Instructor certification	Local legislation	Because a medical degree is required for oxygen administration, this course is not mandatory