

URI Diving Research & Safety Program

Policy to Resume Diving Activities Following Covid

(Since February 2024)

All SCUBA divers participating in underwater instruction and/or research at the University of Rhode Island must adhere to covid-19 and viral illness policies. When experiencing covid symptoms, divers must follow all University guidelines and requirements with positive diagnosis.

FOR ALL COVID INFECTIONS

- Whether asymptomatic or symptomatic, divers must follow all policies as outlined by the University of Rhode Island and CDC (current 5 days isolation).
- Divers must return to a normal exercise capacity, meaning divers must be able to perform exercise to the same ability as before covid (e.g. no shortness of breath, dizziness, chest pain, fainting, etc).
- Any additional fatigue or persistent symptoms are not considered a return to normal exercise and aerobic capacity. Divers experiencing this must wait for symptoms to alleviate and also require approval by a medical professional prior to returning to diving.

The Diving Research & Safety Program will provide final authorization about returning to diving activities. Instructors and/or the Diving Safety Officer reserve the right to consult the URI medical advisor or ask for a second opinion for final approval if necessary.