

URI Diving Research & Safety Program

Policy to Resume Diving Activities Following Covid

(Since July 2022)

All SCUBA divers participating in underwater instruction and/or research at the University of Rhode Island must adhere to covid-19 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 receive medical clearance prior to returning to dive activities. Please make an appointment with URI Health Services (if a student) or your primary physician to discuss your illness. Proof of medical clearance (e.g. signed form or doctor's note) must be submitted to the Diving Safety Officer or course instructor.
- Divers must return to a normal exercise capacity, meaning divers must be able to perform exercise to the same ability as before covid. This should be clearly communicated and discussed with your medical provider. Any additional fatigue or persistent symptoms are not considered a return to normal exercise and aerobic capacity and divers experiencing this should consult with a medical provider.

AND

- Following asymptomatic COVID infection, divers may immediately return to diving with the above requirements met.
- Following symptomatic COVID infection, divers must wait a minimum of 2 weeks from symptom onset with the above requirements met.

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.