



The SCUBA portion of Space Center University is a critical experience within the five-day program. This opportunity is meant for students to feel what it is like to work in an underwater environment similar to what the astronauts train in before they head to the International Space Station. The dive session is preceded by a tour of the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory where astronauts train for spacewalks. Below are frequently asked questions about the scuba session. If you have further questions please send them to globalprograms@spacecenter.org. Our goal is to encourage all students to have this amazing experience!

Q: Is the scuba training required for students?

A: No. We offer the option of an exciting water robotics challenge on the pool deck.

Q: How deep do students dive in the pool?

A: The basic scuba training and team challenges take place in 1-1.5 meters (4-5 feet) of water. The deepest area is 3 meters (11ft), but it is optional.

Q: Who leads this training?

A: The students are led by four scuba certified instructors who have helped train astronauts at the Neutral Buoyancy Lab.

Q: Are the scuba release forms required in order to participate?

A: Yes. Each participant must complete the form and return it 4 weeks prior to their scheduled visit. This way we can review them and address any medical issues that may impact their participation in the water.

Q: Will previous medical conditions determine if a student can scuba?

A: Possibly. The lead diver will need to review the forms to determine if certain medical conditions require a consultation with a physician prior to participating. If a student is not able to scuba they will instead participate in the water robotics challenge.

