

# DIVE-SAR

## FULL FACE MASK Diver course

A Full Face Mask (FFM) covers the diver's entire face with a single piece of equipment which includes the lens and 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage regulator as part of the mask. FFM's are highly recommended for use by Public Safety Divers. This is primarily because PSDs often work in contaminated/polluted bodies of water and/or near submerged vehicles leaking fluids, decomposing human bodies, unknown trash/debris, etc. FFM's are also more secure and less-likely to be dislodged than a recreational-style half-mask which is very important when working around entanglement hazards and inside confined/overhead areas.

Tender-to-Diver and Diver-to-Diver voice communications is very important for the diver's safety during PSD work, and is referenced in NFPA and NIOSH recommendations. The use of FFM's with underwater voice communications is widely-considered a PSD 'Industry Standard' / 'Best Practice' by the PSD community. FFM's can also serve as a platform to attach and dive lights and small video cameras to.

FFM divers also report they feel warmer and experience less dry mouth and jaw fatigue after a day of diving.

Diving with a FFM is easy, but requires specialty training because normal operations and emergency/contingency procedures are different than with a standard regulator and half-mask.

For professional divers: standardized training, along with proper certifications and qualifications are import for operations and risk management. If your divers are using FFM's, but don't have documented training in FFM's, you should consider a Specialty Course in Full Face Masks.

The FFM Specialty Course consists of: (2) hours classroom, (2) hours confined water (skills), and (2) open water dives for certification. FFM training is typically completed in two, four-hour modules, but it can be completed in a single eight-hour day if requested by the client.

[Contact](#) DIVE-SAR for information about prerequisites, tuition, scheduling, etc.

(805) 660-3218  
[E-mail DIVE-SAR](#)