

Scientific Diver Training Course at Lake Constance 2026 Training Program in Scientific Diving / European Scientific Diver

A scientific diver training course will again take place at Lake Constance in 2026. The course is organized by Teraqua GbR in cooperation with Archaeotask GmbH, based in Engen/Hegau, and is conducted as an abbreviated program in accordance with DGUV Regulation 101-023 for scientific diving.

The course provides intensive training in professional diving skills for scientific purposes and concludes with a theoretical and practical examination conducted by the professional association's examination board for scientific divers, followed by certification as a Certified Scientific Diver. This certification is equivalent to the "European Scientific Diver" qualification and can be issued upon application through the Commission for Scientific Diving Germany (KFT).

The course consists of three parts. It begins with an entrance assessment at the end of April 2026 in Löffingen/Black Forest. The entrance assessment includes the following exercises:

- [1] 1000 m surface swim with mask, snorkel, and fins in 16 minutes
- [2] 1 minute static apnea while tying three knots (bowline, clove hitch, figure-eight knot)
- [3] 40 m underwater swim with mask and fins
- [4] Apnea dive to reach a scuba unit and correctly don it underwater
- [5] Theory test at CMAS ** level

After successful completion of the entrance assessment, a theory block begins in early May 2026. During this period, weekly 1.5-hour online seminars cover the physical, medical, technical, and legal foundations of scientific diving. Practical training takes place in two blocks from July 6–17 and September 7–21, 2026, based in Engen/Hegau at Lake Constance. The course concludes with a two-day examination block on September 23–24, 2026.

Entry Requirements

The course is intended for students, postdoctoral researchers, and scientists in aquatic and archaeological disciplines, as well as engineers, journalists, and volunteers active in these fields.

Applicants must:

- (1) Hold a valid diving certification at least equivalent to CMAS** / VDST T2 (Silver).
- (2) Document at least 70 open-water dives totaling a minimum of 30 hours underwater time, including at least 10 dives deeper than 15 m and 5 dives deeper than 25 m.
- (3) Demonstrate experience with dry suits (15+ logged dry suit dives).
- (4) Hold a valid occupational medical fitness certificate for diving, issued by an authorized occupational medical institution.
- (5) Provide a complete set of personal diving equipment including a dry suit (compressed air cylinders and weights are provided; individual equipment items by arrangement).

- (6) Present proof of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training conducted by a certified provider, not older than one year at the time of final examination.
- (7) Hold a Level 2 (Silver) lifeguard certification.

All applicants must demonstrate practical and theoretical competencies at CMAS** level or equivalent during the entrance assessment.

A valid diving medical certificate must be presented at the time of the entrance assessment.

Since there are no Europe-wide standardized certifications for first aid courses, lifeguard qualifications, or occupational diving medical examinations, certificates issued outside Germany will be accepted if they are equivalent to the German standards. For questions regarding equivalency, please contact info@teraqua.de in advance.

Application

Applications should be sent to info@teraqua.de and include a short letter of motivation and a diving résumé. **The application deadline is April 17, 2026.** A valid diving medical certificate must be presented at the entrance assessment. Proof of entry requirements (1–2) must be submitted no later than the start of the theoretical training block and signing of the training contract. Requirements (3–7) must be fulfilled no later than the beginning of the practical training block.

Course Fees

The course fee is €2,950. This includes use of course infrastructure, the examination fee charged by the examination board, and certification costs through the Commission for Scientific Diving Germany. Travel, accommodation, and meals are not included.

More information about training facilities and scientific diving in Germany and Europe:



<https://www.forschungstauchen-deutschland.de>
<http://www.teraqua.de>
<https://www.archaeotask.de>