

HIRA Level I for Dive Businesses

Emergency Action Plans (EAPs)

1. Lost diver

Losing a diver is a serious situation, and could result in a poor outcome if an effective and proven EAP is not in place. Written procedures should be established, and dive operators should ensure that all staff have sufficient knowledge and training on what to do in the event of a lost diver. Diving in remote areas, rough waters, heavy current, and/or during inclement weather can increase the risk of losing divers, and operators must be aware of when conditions are too extreme to host a dive outing.

2. Diving injury

Risk mitigation prior to a dive significantly reduces the chances of divers being injured, but accidents do occur. Dive operators should establish written procedures and ensure that all staff have sufficient knowledge and training on what to do in the event of an injured diver. Instructors, assistant instructors, and divemasters are required to have current first aid and oxygen administration training, and dive operators must keep well-maintained first aid and oxygen kits within reasonable proximity of all training locations.

3. Non-diving injury

Dive operators can face situations involving injuries that were not sustained while in the water. Slips, falls, cuts, and other injuries can occur anywhere (e.g., in the classroom, in the dive shop, in the parking lot, etc.), and dive operators should establish written procedures and ensure that all staff have sufficient knowledge and training on what to do in the event of an injured customer.