

HIRA Level I for Dive Professionals 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 professionals should ensure that they 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 professionals 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 professionals should establish written procedures and ensure that they have sufficient knowledge and training on what to do in the event of an injured diver. In addition, they are required to have current first aid and oxygen administration training, and well-maintained first aid and oxygen kits must be kept within reasonable proximity of all training locations.

3. Non-diving injury

Dive professionals 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.). Dive professionals should establish written procedures and ensure that they have sufficient knowledge and training on what to do in the event of an injured individual.