

>If you are an Uncertified but Experienced Commercial Diver

Stop diving at once and act responsibly. You may be one of the active commercial divers in Singapore who has been working as a diver for many years, but never had the opportunity to attend a course of training and instruction at a recognised commercial diving training centre.

This can be a problem because a certificate of training as a commercial diver is a MOM requirement, and is non-negotiable, regardless of how many years of experience you may already have. One way to get yourself certified in line with MOM requirements is to undergo an “experienced diver programme” which is acceptable to MOM.

In Singapore, this would be the “Assessment Only Pathway” (AOP) programme, currently available at the commercial diver training centre listed above. The “assessment” (not a course!) lasts 10 days (compared to the 40 days for a full Level 1+2 course) and results in a recognised Level 2 equivalent i.e. the “Level 2: Surface Supplied Diver – Assessment Only Pathway” qualification. Bear in mind that, if your experience is very limited (e.g. only SCUBA diving), you will not be able to pass the Assessment. In this case, we recommend you attend the full course.

If you are unsure, you can arrange to meet with the course provider for a frank discussion on your suitability for the AOP programme. Some foreign certifying bodies (e.g., ADAS in Australia) also offer an experienced diver programme to obtain an Offshore Diver certificate. However, these programmes are only for those with extensive offshore diving experience. Again, if you are unsure, you should contact the training centre involved to check your eligibility.