

## **Project DEEP Teaching Assistant Code of Conduct**

**Mission:** At Project DEEP, our mission is to foster a love for marine conservation and underwater exploration through scuba education. As teaching assistants, we play a crucial role in achieving this mission by assisting instructors, ensuring safety, and providing exceptional learning experiences to our participants.

**Purpose of the Code of Conduct:** This Code of Conduct outlines the standards of behavior and responsibilities expected of all Teaching Assistants (TAs) at Project DEEP. It serves as a guideline to maintain a positive and respectful environment for both the TAs and the participants.

### **Role Responsibilities and Expectations:**

1. **Support Instructors:** TAs are responsible for assisting scuba instructors in conducting training sessions, ensuring participant safety, and facilitating a collaborative learning environment.
2. **Safety First:** TAs must prioritize participant safety by adhering to established safety protocols, assisting with equipment setup, and being vigilant during underwater activities.
3. **Educational Excellence:** TAs should strive to enhance participants' scuba skills, marine knowledge, and appreciation for underwater ecosystems through clear communication, hands-on guidance, and interactive teaching methods.
4. **Role Model:** TAs are expected to exhibit professionalism, enthusiasm, and a passion for marine conservation, inspiring participants to become responsible and respectful divers.
5. **Feedback and Improvement:** TAs should provide constructive feedback to instructors to continuously enhance the quality of the training programs.
6. **Collaboration:** TAs should foster a collaborative atmosphere by assisting fellow TAs and sharing knowledge and insights to collectively enhance the learning experience.
7. **Adaptability:** TAs should be flexible and adaptable to changing conditions, ensuring a smooth learning process even in challenging situations.
8. **Equipment Use:** TAs can use Project DEEP's equipment during all courses as outlined by the active instructor. Equipment is available during confined water and open water diving. Additional benefits may apply based on accountability and engagement.

**Confidentiality:** TAs are required to maintain strict confidentiality regarding any participant's personal information, medical history, or any other sensitive data obtained during the course. Sharing such information without proper authorization is strictly prohibited.

**Discrimination and Harassment:** Project DEEP is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination and harassment. TAs must treat all participants, fellow TAs, instructors, and staff members with respect and fairness, regardless of their background, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic. Any form of discrimination, harassment, or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and may lead to termination.

**Conclusion:** As Teaching Assistants at Project DEEP, our role is essential in nurturing a passion for marine conservation and scuba diving. By adhering to this Code of Conduct, we contribute to a safe, respectful, and enriching learning environment for all participants and uphold the values of Project DEEP's mission.

*Note: Project DEEP Training assistants are not certified training assistants as defined in NAUI's Standards and Policies. They do not count towards ratios.*

*This Code of Conduct is effective as of September 1, 2023, and may be updated as necessary to align with the organization's policies and goals.*