



BIOS

BERMUDA
INSTITUTE
OF OCEAN
SCIENCES

DIVING AT BIOS

Important Medical Information for Students and Visiting Scientists Who Plan to Dive While at BIOS

For your safety, all diving at BIOS falls under the umbrella of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS). All divers must abide by the AAUS standards. These standards include a comprehensive medical examination. The medical exam forms are available at: http://www.bios.edu/Education/Education_Forms/medical.pdf

THE INITIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE ARRIVAL AT BIOS. There are two reasons for this requirement: 1) your time at BIOS is relatively short, especially if you are enrolled in one of the classes, and it can take several weeks to get a doctor's appointment and complete the exam in Bermuda; in contrast, classes and diving requirements/opportunities begin almost on day one; 2) the cost of a medical exam in Bermuda is almost certainly two to five times what you would pay at home.

You must be prepared to show proof of the AAUS-certified Initial Medical Exam upon your arrival at BIOS if you intend to dive.

If you have completed the AAUS Initial Medical Exam in the last five years (or last three years if you are over age 40; two years if over 60), your earlier medical exam is still valid. Re-examination procedures are outlined on the medical forms if you have exceeded your time limits: http://www.bios.edu/Education/Education_Forms/medical.pdf

Note 1: In rare circumstances, under "Recommendations," the doctor may check the box "Restricted Activity Approval." In these circumstances, the student must contact the BIOS Dive Safety Office before arriving in Bermuda to discuss the issue.

Note 2: If the doctor checks the box "Further Testing Required," students will not be permitted to dive at BIOS until these tests are completed, which must happen before arrival in Bermuda.