



Gulf States Dive and Rescue 501(c)(3)

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Gretna, LA. 70056

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www.diveandrescue.org



RESCUE BOAT OPERATOR

The Rescue Boat Operator program is designed to help first responding services initiate immediate life-saving efforts to individuals trapped on platforms, in the water or during rescue boat stand-by. Each day is performance based. Depending on the level of instruction, this class is offered in (2) or (3) 12-hour days. There is a minimum of 4 participants in one vessel. Minimum numbers are based on southeast, LA area.

This program meets and exceeds:

- Boat Operator pre-requisites for certification and participation into the NIMS Integration Center's National Credentialing System.
- Search and Rescue (SAR) Working Group page. Specifically, job title 24 "boat bowman" and job title 25 "boat operator". http://www.fema.gov/txt/emergency/nims/sar_jobtitle_111806.txt
- Program meets the NFPA scope for 1006 & 1670.

This is a practical skill heavy, performance-based program. It is designed for teams that may have to respond to inland waterways or flood plain response. Applicable to still water, moderate moving water rescue or isolated short run swift moving water locations such as levee, dam, lock or flood gate failures into populous. Ideal for small rescue boat deployments utilizing 3-man boat teams in areas where boat malfunction presents little to moderate risk to rescuers. Navigation utilizing basic compass techniques or utilizing street maps for urban/metropolitan environments. For classes with less than 8 participants, team should consider a Swift Water/Flood Rescue Technician course to fully participate in non-motorized boat rescue techniques discussed and demonstrated in class. Proof of USCG Boater Safety Course required.

Program includes the following:

- Vessel and Motor Selection
Flat, V hull, Inflatable
Inboard, Outboard and Jets
- Basic Boating Terminology
- Basic Maintenance and Troubleshooting
Before, during and after usage
- Transportation, Trailering, Davits, Launching and Recovery
- Mandatory and Recommended Equipment
United States Coast Guard Mandated
Recommended equipment for various rescue vessels



Special Considerations: Crew assignment and responsibilities, strainers, moving platforms (such as buildings or vehicles). Frontal Impact into platforms from levee failures, dams, etc. Structural emergency triage and geographical considerations of urban, rural and metropolitan rescues

Hydrology and Reading Moving Water Features, Including:

- Laminar Flows
- Helicals
- Eddy's
- Hole/Sucks/Keeps and Boils
- Reaction, Standing, Haystack Waves
- Reversals
- Up Stream & Down Stream "V"s



Check us out at Diveandrescue.org
on the web or on Facebook

Dive and Rescue has videos and photos of skills, as well as our training site, located on our Facebook page "Dive and Rescue.org". There is also great info on our Swift Water/Flood Rescue, Rescue Swimmer and dive programs!

General Rescue Guidelines

- Weather Considerations
- Power lines
- Animals
- Contamination
- Considerations of Night Operations
- Make-shift launching platforms
- Personnel Considerations

Orientation of Boat and Rope systems routinely taught in Swift Water/Flood Rescue Technician programs.

- 2-point boat operations
- 4-point boat operations
- Tension Diagonal boat operations
- Tension Diagonal boat operations on a mid-point drop.



Minimum standards:

- 18 years old
- Completed Liability Release and Medical Questionnaire
- Type V Personal Floatation Device and water rescue helmet required.
Equipment available through Dive and Rescue for class - Restrictions apply



Watermanship Assessment

- Swim 200 meters, any stroke or combination of strokes, no time limit.
- Float or tread water 10 minutes no PFD. Conducted on day 1.

Course Fees:

\$ NFPA compliant, internationally recognized certification course valid for two years.
\$149.00 Refresher fee. One-day course in swift water when available.
Registration fee of \$50/pp required. (P.O., PayPal, company checks, cash, credit cards w/ 3.2% fee) Completed Medical Questionnaire *prior* to attending.

Travel out of area: Dive and Rescue can come to your location with prior notice. Please call for quote.



PRACTICAL SKILL LESSONS AND EVALUATION

Required Equipment to participate in water borne skills:

Type V personal floatation device, water rescue helmet, gloves, appropriate exposure protection for environment (wet suit, dry exposure suit or duty uniform temperatures permitting). No horse shoe floatation allowed for training. If your department does not own equipment it *may* be available through Dive and Rescue. Students will be in the water both days. Bring lunch both days.

Day 1 Practical Skills are conducted in static water or “lake like” conditions.

- Usage and familiarization using agency vessels
- Rescue of conscious victims with no PFD
- Rescue of incapacitated victims with or without PFD
- Rescue of victims/rescuers with PFD
- Righting a capsized vessel
- Throw devices and basic common knots
- English Gate
- Giant Slalom
- Serpentine
- Live Bait deployment , control and retrieval



Day 2 Practical Skills are conducted in moving water applicable to vessel engine size and capabilities.

- Victim picks from platforms
- Station Keeping
- Ascent and Descent in moving water
- J Turn
- Peel Out
- Ferrying
- Eddy Turns

At the end of Day two there will be a written evaluation of the material covered. A score of 80% or better is considered a passing grade. Once payment is received, certifications will be delivered. Payment does not guarantee certification. If you have additional questions, you can call our office at 504-362-5731, or text our Director, Paul Fraser @ 504-382-1097.

Aerial view of Dive and Rescue moving water training location.

THIS SITE IS HEAVILY AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FLOW.

We recommend this class be conducted in February, with appropriate exposure protection, March, April or May. The depth, width, flow and overall foot print is much more conducive for safe operations. As the water lowers, the foot print gets smaller and there is increased risk of propeller and hull damage.

