

**NOAA DIVING PROGRAM  
APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT OF MEDICAL HISTORY AND  
REPORT OF PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORMS**

**TO THE APPLICANT –**

The purpose of completing the Report of Medical History and Report of Physical Examination forms is to obtain medical data for determination of medical fitness for diving with the NOAA Diving Program. Disclosure of any and all information is voluntary; however, failure to provide the requested information may result in delay or possible rejection of your application to dive or continue to dive with the NOAA Diving Program.

There are instructions for completing the Report of Medical History and Report of Physical Examination forms for your medical provider (examiner). **The medical provider or examiner who completes these forms MUST be a physician (medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy), nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant. Make sure you take these instructions for the medical provider (examiner) (titled "TO THE EXAMINER") to the appointment with you. You must be sure that your medical provider is aware of all the important information in these instructions.**

**Every item must be completed on both the "Report of Medical History" and "Report of Physical Examination" forms including signatures.** There are no items on either form that will have a "not examined" or "not applicable" response. Before you send your medical documents in to your Unit Diving Supervisor (UDS) or to the NOAA Dive Center for any of the dive classes or renewal, review both forms to make sure every item has the requested information documented. Any item not completed on either form will result in the form being returned for completion. This could result in a delay in the processing of a dive application or renewal of a diving certification. It is very wise to begin your physical examination process several months in advance to make sure that all needed test results and/or medical information is collected well before the deadline or cut off date.

Notice that on both forms there are items that must be completed by both you and your medical provider (examiner) including signatures. You should complete the "To Be Completed by Applicant" items on both forms before you see your medical provider. **On the Report of Medical History form you must complete items 1 through 43 and include your name and the current date at the top of each page in the space provided.** Each item marked as "yes" must be fully explained with dates in item 42 by question number. Your medical provider (examiner) will complete items 44 and 45. **On the Report of Physical Examination form you must items 1 through 7 and include your name and the current date at the top of each page in the space provided.** Your medical provider (examiner) will complete the rest.

**There are very specific laboratory tests and other diagnostic studies that are required with each initial or periodic physical examination, depending upon the age of the applicant. It is your responsibility to make sure that your medical provider (examiner) performs the appropriate required laboratory tests/diagnostic studies listed below.** When all are completed, you must submit actual copies of the results to NOAA (values or results hand written will not be accepted).

Initial Examination (all ages)

- Chest x-ray within the last 24 months (Submit official signed interpretation, no films)
- Spirometry (results and interpretation)
- Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- Audiogram (attach testing equipment printout)
- Complete urinalysis
- Vision (distant and near vision results)

Periodic Examination (all ages)

- Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- Complete urinalysis
- Vision (distant and near vision results)

Include for Age 40 and Older for All Examinations

- 12-Lead resting EKG (trace and interpretation)
- Glucose screening (Hemaglobin A1c)
- Lipid screening (total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, VLDL, triglycerides)

All above laboratory tests/diagnostic studies as well as the medical history and physical examination must be performed within the previous 12 months with the exception of the chest x-ray which must be performed within the previous 24 months.

If your medical provider conducted other laboratory tests/diagnostic studies as a part of the physical examination, copies of these results must be submitted to NOAA by the applicant/diver.

**The NOAA Diving Program – Medical Evaluation Checklist form must be included in your application. Complete this checklist, sign and date it, and forward all the application documents to your UDS for review and signature (forward your application to one of the NOAA Diving Program’s classes directly to the NOAA Dive Center). The UDS will review all documents for completeness and sign before forwarding to the NOAA Diving Program. It is your responsibility to make sure that all needed medical information (including laboratory tests and diagnostic studies) is submitted with the signed “Report of Medical History” and “Report of Physical Examination” forms.**

Final determination for fitness for diving will be made by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Diving Program. For questions, contact the NOAA Dive Medical Officer at (206) 526-6474.

Application packets for any of the NOAA Dive Center’s classes should be sent to:

Executive Officer, NOAA Diving Program  
7600 Sand Point Way NE  
Building 8  
Seattle, WA 98115