

Confederation Mondiale des Activites Subaquatiques (CMAS)

C.M.A.S. - The World Underwater Federation, was founded during 1959 by Jacques Cousteau in Monaco with the representatives of 15 countries. The YMCA SCUBA Program has the unique and singular distinction of being the United States CMAS Training Federation. This enables YMCA instructors and students to receive the prestigious CMAS credentials and to purchase CMAS materials and products. The YMCA SCUBA Program is also a member of the CMAS Technical Commission. Currently the YMCA SCUBA Program is only provider of CMAS certifications in the USA.

C.M.A.S. currently consists of representative federations in 87 countries world-wide. Each of these countries has a CMAS approved national federation which provides the access to the CMAS programs for all personnel who reside in that country, thus the unique CMAS certification yields worldwide credibility to those who possess it. All YMCA divers and instructors may procure CMAS certification because CMAS has established approved certification equivalence with the YMCA SCUBA Program based on its high standards. The following table describes these equivalent levels:

DIVER

<u>CMAS</u>	<u>YMCA</u>
CMAS 1 Star Diver	YMCA Open Water Diver or Adv. OW(no juniors or Bronze equiv.)
CMAS 2 Star Diver	YMCA Silver Advanced Diver
CMAS 3 Star Diver	YMCA Divemaster
CMAS 4 Star Diver	YMCA Divemaster + Gold Master diver + 100 logged dives

INSTRUCTOR

<u>CMAS</u>	<u>YMCA</u>
CMAS 1 Star Instructor	YMCA Assistant Instructor
CMAS 2 Star Instructor	YMCA Silver/Gold/Platinum Instructor
CMAS 3 Star Instructor	YMCA Instructor Trainer

The YMCA Instructor can, by maintaining active YMCA Instructor status and insurance, offer CMAS certification cards, CMAS diver and instructor and diver certification. CMAS equivalency through the YMCA SCUBA Program is not available to leaders or divers outside the United States (unless they are United States citizens). Information concerning CMAS fees/costs for certifications and materials can be obtained from the YMCA SCUBA Program Office. The CMAS program recognition is an excellent addition to the YMCA SCUBA certification at all levels and its use sets the YMCA diver and instructor apart from all other certifications available in the USA.