

Candidate Involvement:

2.1 Observation (Pre-ITC)

Candidates must observe at least one class during the process of Instructor Training. Preferably after registering as Instructor Intern and before the formal Instructor Training starts. Focus areas include:

- Class flow and structure
- Instructor positioning, control and communication
- Active teaching underwater and debriefing
- Daily planning, logistics, and reasoning behind decisions

An [instructor–candidate debrief should occur daily](#).

Goal: Help candidates start seeing classes through the eyes of an instructor, not a student.

NOTE: Observation pre-ITC is optional for Performance Diver and Open Water Diver Instructor Candidates, but recommended.)

2.2 Internship (Post-ITC Internship)

Instructor candidates need to be mentored through internships to gain experience and be ready to handle real students during their Instructor Evaluation and after while dealing with their student in real classes..

Candidates should practice:

- Delivering briefings and answering questions from students after completion of GUE Mastery Learning™
- Teaching field drills and active teaching in-water skills
- [Debriefing students](#)
- Identifying student issues and offering solutions with correct reasoning
- Their role will vary depending on their progression through the instructor training process

Supervision by IT or IE is mandatory during any internship training set up. IEs and ITs are required to permit instructor candidates to observe and participate in their classes.

Goal: Develop practical, hands-on experience in handling real student dynamics—critical for success at the Instructor Exam (IE). This includes identifying students' problems and offering solutions with valid whys and hows. The intern's decisions should be discussed with the instructor after each dive (and vice versa).