

FORCE BLUE, INC.

Giving warriors a cause.
Giving a cause its warriors.



P.O. Box 1254
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29465
914.841.7230
www.forceblueteam.org

DAMIEN “DAMO” MASSINGHAM DIVE TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Named to honor a FORCE BLUE teammate whom we lost in 2023, the Damien “Damo” Massingham Dive Training Scholarship is now being offered to FORCE BLUE Ocean Conservation School (OCS) graduates who wish to continue their dive training and add to their dive certifications beyond “Open Water Diver”.

Each individual scholarship is capped at **\$3K**. A few additional things to consider:

- This award is designed **ONLY** for FORCE BLUE OCS graduates who wish to increase their diving knowledge, skills and certifications up to and through the Master Scuba Diver level.
- Dive training must culminate in certification(s) from an internationally recognized dive training agency.
- At least one level of training must be completed with a report submitted to FORCE BLUE within one (1) calendar year of receipt of the award. If you cannot complete your training by that date, please withdraw your application and apply again the following year.
- Please be aware that all scholarship payments will be made directly to the dive store/facility conducting the training, **NOT TO THE STUDENT**. While you may choose the provider you wish to train with, FORCE BLUE must first approve that choice before any payment will be made.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name (Please designate any nicknames):

Complete Address:

Email:



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APPLICANT STATEMENT

Bio Sketch:

Tell us about yourself. Please write a short bio (less than 100 words) to introduce yourself to the grant review team. Are you a student? If yes, what are you studying and what are your career aspirations? Are you employed? What kind of work do you do? Tell us anything about yourself that you'd like us to know, especially as it relates to your interest in diving.

Character Limit: 2000

Volunteerism:

Are you doing, or have you done, any volunteer activities? Briefly explain.

Character Limit: 2000

APPLICANT REQUEST

Why do you want to continue your diving education?

How do you plan to use your new diving skills?

Character Limit: 2000

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APPLICANT REQUEST (CONT.)

Why do you need/want a grant?

Please answer in less than 100 words. We know that this is a no-brainer: it's expensive to take dive classes and to buy dive gear. Why do you need the funds? Are you in school? Paying tuition? Supporting your family? We don't need personal details--just a general idea of why you can't pay for the training without this grant. Please keep in mind that the reviewers will evaluate this response carefully.

Character Limit: 1000

Proposed date of training:

If you receive the grant, when do you plan to take the training? At least one level of training must be completed within one-year of the receipt of this award. If you do not think you can complete training by that date, please do not apply this year.

Character Limit: 250

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #1 – INSTRUCTIONS

Two letters of recommendation are required.

These letters may be from dive instructors, teachers, professors, employers, mentors — anyone in a position to support your application — and, in particular, your ability to follow through with the training.

We strongly recommend that you not ask a family member to provide a letter of recommendation.



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Recommender #1 - Details:

In the space below, please list name, affiliation, number of years you have known the recommender, and in what capacity you know the recommender (e.g., professor, employer, pastor, etc.). Note that we recommend that you do **not** include a letter from a family member, friend, or classmate.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #2 – INSTRUCTIONS

Two letters of recommendation are required.

These letters may be from dive instructors, teachers, professors, employers, mentors — anyone in a position to support your application — and, in particular, your ability to follow through with the training.

We strongly recommend that you not ask a family member to provide a letter of recommendation.

Recommender #2 - Details:

In the space below, please list name, affiliation, number of years you have known the recommender, and in what capacity you know the recommender (e.g., professor, employer, pastor, etc.). Note that we recommend that you do **not** include a letter from a family member, friend, or classmate.



DAMIEN "DAMO" MASSINGHAM DIVE TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #1 – CONTACTING YOUR RECOMMENDER

Recommender #1 Email:

Enter the email address of the individual from whom you are requesting a letter of recommendation. We strongly suggest that you confirm that the individual has agreed to write your letter.

- You may copy the example message below to paste into the body of your email:

Hello! I am applying for a scholarship through FORCE BLUE. I am writing you today to request that you provide a Letter of Recommendation. This is a Dive Training Scholarship that will allow me to complete my dive training up to an through the Master Diver level. Please provide a letter of recommendation on letterhead stationery for your organization. Please indicate how long you've known me and in what capacity, as well as your impression of my ability to complete my dive training on time. Please complete the letter and send to me by _____ . Thank you for your time.

- Attach the letter of recommendation to your application.

Recommender #2 Email:

Enter the email address of the individual from whom you are requesting a letter of recommendation. We strongly suggest that you confirm that the individual has agreed to write your letter.

- You may ask more than two people to write you a letter of recommendation and then select the best two.

- You may copy the example message below to paste into the body of your email:

Hello! I am applying for a scholarship through FORCE BLUE. I am writing you today to request that you provide a Letter of Recommendation. This is a Dive Training Scholarship that will allow me to complete my dive training up to an through the Master Diver level. Please provide a letter of recommendation on letterhead stationery for your organization. Please indicate how long you've known me and in what capacity, as well as your impression of my ability to complete my dive training on time. Please complete the letter and send to me by _____ . Thank you for your time.

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DIVE TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

FINAL STEPS

Upon receipt of your of your two letters of recommendation, email your completed application and the two letters of recommendation, attach all documents to an email and send to:
Ray@forceblueteam.org.