



DAN RESEARCH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM Host Facility Brochure

What is the DAN Research Internship Program?

The DAN Research Internship Program is designed to expand *Project Dive Exploration (PDE)* data collection and to provide experiences that may motivate young people towards careers in diving or diving-related fields. The Internship Program runs primarily from June through August, and interns are recruited largely from students at colleges, universities and medical schools across the United States. Interns are trained at DAN and placed with DAN business members who are designated as a *PDE* Host Facility.

What are the goals of Project Dive Exploration (PDE)?

PDE has collected over 76,000 dives and publishes this information in DAN's Annual Review of Recreational Scuba Diving Injuries and Fatalities, [Report on Decompression Illness \(DCI\)](#), [Diving Fatalities](#), and [Project Dive Exploration](#). While information about diving injuries and fatalities is helpful for identifying contributing factors, it does not address the underlying risks. To understand risk, one must know about safe dives as well, and as DCI risk is determined by depth-time exposure, knowledge of the dive profiles is also necessary. DAN developed Data Acquisition Software (DAS) to collect dive profiles and information about the divers, dives and medical outcome following injuries. Many thousands of dive profiles are needed, so DAN trains motivated divers to collect data and designates them as Field Research Coordinators (FRCs).

Why an Internship Program?

An internship program provides DAN is an inexpensive method of data collection while encouraging and promoting the educational experiences and future of students. With the student collecting the data, the shop owner or dive operator will offer support through space at their facility, access to their divers and advertisement of DAN and the project.

Divers Alert Network's Role:

DAN is committed to training and mentoring the interns to make them competent in data collection. With their training and interactions with the diving public for *PDE* data collection, they will be able to communicate the importance of diving research for improving the safety of recreational diving. Interns are expected to work five days per week collecting *PDE* data. The number of divers an intern would collect data from daily will be determined by the logistics and activity at the host facility. Daily activities of the intern might include briefing divers, helping divers to complete forms, data entry, dive computer downloading, submission of dives to DAN research, e-mail communications with DAN, weekly submission of email logs, time on the dive boats, time diving, and interaction with divers. Interns will submit dives collected to DAN every week. Interns also can promote DAN to local divers in their informal conversations, formal presentations and articles in local publications.

DAN will recruit *PDE* participants in advance by advertising the project and the host facility. *PDE* participants will be recruited with a slogan such as, "Be a DAN Research Diver." Appropriate paraphernalia including stickers, stamps, pins may be available to give away to participating divers. DAN will advertise the program and the host facilities' participation in *Alert Diver, On Board*, research newsletter, on the DAN website, and press releases. Customers of specific host facilities would be informed about *PDE* by providing *PDE* flyers for mailing with host facilities newsletters (or by broadcast e-mail announcements).

How to Become a Host Facility/Lodging Provider:

DAN is asking the Host Facility provide:

- workspace for the intern,
- advertise *PDE* and
- assist in providing access to your divers for data collection.

The Host facility must:

- have an active diving clientele
- diving activities occurring at least 5-days a week (weather permitting) from June to August
- be a current DAN Business Member

Selection criteria will be based on:

- enthusiasm,
- adequate workspace,
- an active diving clientele, and
- ability to support an intern with housing and/or meals.

The DAN Research Department will work with the Host facility and other local contacts to secure reasonable lodging.

DAN and the Host facility will sign an agreement, which details the responsibilities of the Host facility to DAN and the intern and the responsibilities of DAN to the Host facility. If you did not receive a Host Facility Application with this brochure, please contact DAN Research at the contact information below. If you are also able to offer lodging, please complete the Lodging Provider Agreement Form.

If you are interested in the DAN Research Internship Program and would like to become a host facility or lodging provider, or if you just want more information, please contact:

To submit an application or for further information, please contact:

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