

Marine Information Bulletin

Commercial licence – Master Class 4 (restricted to sheltered waters and pilotage areas where endorsed)

Limits of licence

The holder of this licence can act as master of:

- Commercial ships less than 80 m in length within all sheltered waters.

Note: for a licence endorsement to operate in pilotage areas, contact your Maritime Safety Queensland regional office.

Application for licence

Candidates must personally lodge or make appropriate arrangements to lodge their marine licence application on form F3103 with supporting documents at a Maritime Safety Queensland regional office.

Evidence of the prerequisites listed below must accompany the marine licence application. If supplying copies of original documents they must be suitably certified by a Justice of the Peace or a Commissioner of Declarations.

Prerequisites

To be eligible for oral assessment by Maritime Safety Queensland candidates must:

- Be 18 years of age (evidence of identity required).
- Provide a current certificate of medical fitness (issued within the last two years), including eyesight test as defined in medical fitness requirements (USL Schedule 1).
Note: Candidates should undertake eyesight and vision testing before commencing training and the issue of a commercial licence. Maritime Safety Queensland may issue a licence restricted to daylight hours if the minimum standard for colour vision is not met.
- Be the holder of a licence as Master Class 5, Skipper Grade 3, Second Mate, Mate Class 4 or Skipper Grade 2.
- Provide the notification of result of sea service assessment – form F4686 (valid for one year).
- Provide two recent colour passport photographs (taken within the last 12 months).
- Provide proof of a Marine Radio Operators Certificate of Proficiency (MROCP) or a Marine Radio Operators VHF Certificate of Proficiency (MROVPC).
- Provide a TDM40307 Certificate IV in Transport Distribution (Coastal Maritime Operations – Master Class 4) attesting to the satisfactory completion of the required competencies (within the last five years) issued by an authorised registered training organisation (RTO).
- Pay the prescribed fees.

For further details refer to general licence profiles on Maritime Safety Queensland's website

Note: the units of competency for Elements of Shipboard Safety, and Occupational Health and Safety at Sea are perpetual.

Qualifying sea service

Examiners will use the following as a guide to assess the appropriateness of a candidate's sea service towards a licence:

- Since gaining a licence as a Master Class 5 (restricted to sheltered waters) or Skipper Grade 3:
 - Nine months appropriate watchkeeping service in ships less than 80 m in length of which 50% must be within the last five years and three months on commercial ships beyond smooth waters.
- Since gaining a licence as a Second Mate or Mate Class 4:
 - Three months appropriate watchkeeping service in ships less than 80 m in length.
- Since gaining a licence as a Skipper Grade 2:
 - Three months trading.

Note: All watchkeeping service must be on ships **not** less than 15 m in length.

Sea service assessment

Candidates must personally lodge or make appropriate arrangements to lodge their sea service assessment application on form F4634 at a Maritime Safety Queensland regional office.

Sea service will be assessed using the National Maritime Safety Committee's (NMSC) Principles for Assessing Sea Service – Circular N° 03-2 issued on 7 August 2003. A copy of this document can be accessed at www.msg.qld.gov.au/Licensing/Commercial/Sea-service.aspx.

Candidates must provide a Workplace-based Task Book (WBT book) signed off by an authorised RTO.

Satisfactory completion of the WBT book will, where applicable, lead to a reduction of 50% of the qualifying sea service; however, completion of a WBT book will not lead to a further reduction of sea service for this and other

restricted licences.

Under the Record of Service (ROS) book system, sea service is assessed in the basic unit of a 'month'. A month is defined as a minimum of 150 hours of work over a period of at least 20 days.

Maritime Safety Queensland requires candidates to gain appropriate quality sea service by competently performing the duties relevant to the level and discipline of the licence required. For example, performing the duties and accepting the responsibilities that would be comparable to that of a master, watchkeeper or deckhand onboard a ship.

Maritime Safety Queensland may request supporting documentation (i.e. statutory declarations) to support ROS book entries.

Ratification of sea service does not automatically constitute acceptance. The Maritime Safety Queensland examiner determines final acceptance.

Note: Falsifying sea service is an indictable offence.

Oral assessment

Candidates are required to undertake an oral assessment, independent of the RTO, conducted by Maritime Safety Queensland before being issued a licence.

An appointment for an oral assessment can only be made after all of the requirements for the licence have been satisfied.

Candidates who successfully complete the oral assessment may request a temporary authority to allow them to operate immediately.

Information

Information on RTO locations and Marine Information Bulletins covering various topics relating to marine licensing can be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland's website at www.msg.qld.gov.au and from the following Maritime Safety Queensland regional offices.

Airlie Beach	(07) 4946 2200
Bundaberg	(07) 4131 8500
Cairns	(07) 4052 7400
Gladstone	(07) 4973 1200
Hervey Bay	(07) 4194 9600
Mackay	(07) 4944 3700
Mooloolaba	(07) 5477 8425
Pinkenba	(07) 3860 3500
Southport	(07) 5539 7300
Townsville	(07) 4726 3400

Note: If there is an inconsistency between this document and previously issued documents in relation to the subject matter, this document supersedes advice conveyed in previous documents dealing with these matters. Previous documents found to be in conflict with this document (or parts thereof) will be updated or withdrawn at the earliest convenient opportunity.