

## Marine Information Bulletin

### Commercial licence – Skipper Grade 1

#### Limits of licence

The holder of this licence can act as master of:

- Fishing ships less than 80 metres in length to within 600 nautical miles from the coast or the boundaries of the designated sheltered water limits.
- Fishing ships less than 35 metres in length in unlimited areas of operation – as determined by the authority.

#### 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 2 years), including eyesight test as defined in medical fitness requirements (USL Schedule 1).

Note: Maritime Safety Queensland requires that candidates undertake eyesight and colour vision testing before commencing training and the issue of an initial 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 4, Skipper Grade 2, Second Mate or Mate Class 4.
- 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 TDM50507 Diploma of Transport and Distribution (Coastal Maritime Operations – Master Class 3) attesting to the satisfactory completion of the required competencies (within the last five years) issued by an approved 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 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 4 or Skipper Grade 2, 18 months appropriate watchkeeping service including:
  - 12 months of appropriate watchkeeping service within the last five years.
  - 12 months of appropriate watchkeeping service on fishing ships greater than 24 metres in length.
- Second Mate or Mate Class 4, 18 months appropriate watchkeeping service including:
  - 12 months appropriate watchkeeping within the last five years.
  - 12 months of appropriate watchkeeping service on ships greater than 24 metres in length.
- Master Class 5 or Skipper Grade 3, 36 months of appropriate watchkeeping service including:
  - 12 months of appropriate watchkeeping service on ships greater than 24 metres in length.
- Master Class 3:
  - Three months appropriate watchkeeping service in fishing ships in the last five years.

#### 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](http://www.msg.qld.gov.au/Licensing/Commercial/Sea-service.aspx).

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 (that is, 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's locations and Marine Information Bulletins covering various topics relating to marine licensing can be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland's website at [www.msq.qld.gov.au](http://www.msq.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.