

# Marine Information Bulletin

## Registration of Queensland regulated ships 15 metres in length and over – frequently asked questions

September 2016

### What is the requirement?

Boats 15 metres and over in length present additional risks to marine safety and the marine environment because of their size, their potential to be operated over greater distances and their capacity to carry more passengers on board.

Maritime Safety Queensland requires that all new applications for boat registration, transfer of registration, or change of boat particulars for a boat with a length of 15 metres or more be referred to Maritime Standards before an application is processed by a Transport and Main Roads Customer Service Centre.

### What will this achieve?

This will enable Maritime Standards to identify and proactively manage these boats due to their build characteristics or state of seaworthiness.

### Who does this apply to?

This policy applies to people applying for:

- new registration of boats 15 metres and more
- transfer of ownership of boats 15 metres and more
- change of particulars of boats 15 metres and more; this is particularly in respect to people applying to amend the registration details of an existing registered boat of 15 metres or more to less than 15 metres.

### Who do I send my application to?

Applications should be sent to Maritime Standards ([Maritime\\_Standards@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Maritime_Standards@tmr.qld.gov.au)) for endorsement or present your application in person at a Transport and

Main Roads Customer Service Centre, and they will refer the application on your behalf.

You will need to send one of the following completed forms:

- Queensland Regulated Ship Registration Application (form number F3525)
- Queensland Regulated Ship Registration Transfer Application (form number F3521)
- Change of Queensland Regulated Ship Particulars Notification (form number F3527).

Endorsement by Maritime Standards does not constitute a processed registration application; this can only be done by a Transport and Main Roads Customer Service Centre or QGAP office.

### Do I need to go into a Maritime Safety Queensland regional office in person?

No, you only need to send your application to [Maritime\\_Standards@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Maritime_Standards@tmr.qld.gov.au)

### Does this cost anything extra?

No, there is no additional charge. There may, however, be costs associated with making your boat seaworthy if a Shipping Inspector directs you to do so before the boat can be registered.

### Who decides the suitability for Queensland regulated ship registration?

In the first instance, when completed paperwork is presented to Maritime Standards, an officer will be assigned to assess the application. The officer will

recommend to the director whether endorsement of the application for registration is appropriate. If granted, an endorsement letter will be provided to the applicant.

If the officer does not believe the boat is suitable for registration, he/she will refer the application, including a statement of grounds for belief, to the Director (Vehicle and Vessel Standards) for consideration and recommendation to the General Manager (Maritime Safety Queensland) to either refuse the application or grant the registration on conditions.

The Director (Vehicle and Vessel Standards) will advise the applicant in writing of the reasons for refusal or conditional granting of registration.

## What's involved in an assessment?

In considering whether a boat is suitable for registration, the officer will consider the following:

- the boat's design and build
- whether the boat has been modified in a way that makes it suitable
- would a person require special skills or expertise (engineering or deck skills) to navigate the boat beyond that possessed by a recreational marine driver licence holder
- whether the nature, design, characteristics or equipment of the boat are of a commercial nature (that is, non-recreational)
- whether the boat should be required to carry additional safety equipment
- whether the boat is seaworthy to the required standard.

## Will all boats 15 metres in length or more be inspected?

No, most new boats or boats that are clearly built for recreational use will not require inspection. Maritime Safety Queensland will inspect those boats that are of a commercial build, such as tugs and barges.

## How long will it take to process my application?

Most applications will be decided without the need for an inspection of the boat. Routinely, Maritime Standards will endorse and return application forms to applicants within seven working days. However, should it be necessary to conduct an inspection of the boat, the timeline for completion may be longer depending on the availability of a Shipping Inspector.

In all cases, however, Maritime Standards will advise an applicant of their decision within 30 days of receipt of the application.

## Who do I contact if I have a query or a complaint?

In the first instance applicants should contact Maritime Standards. ([Maritime\\_Standards@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Maritime_Standards@tmr.qld.gov.au))

Where Maritime Standards declines an application for registration, transfer of registration, or change boat particulars for a boat with a length of 15 metres or more, the applicant should be referred to Maritime Safety Queensland.

## What happens if I do not have Maritime Standards endorsement?

If you present your application to a Transport and Main Roads Customer Service Centre without the Maritime Standards endorsement notice, the Customer Service Officer will be unable to process your application.

## Will I need to do this every time I renew my registration?

No, the requirement to seek Maritime Standards' endorsement only applies for applications for new registration, transfer of ownership, and change of boat particulars.