

United States Maritime Academy
U.S.C.G. Approved License Courses
Over 5000 Captains since 1987



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United States Maritime Academy

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National Maritime Center 888-427-5662
https://www.dco.uscg.mil/national_maritime_center/

Class locations, schedules, costs: <https://www.usmaritime.us/resources>
All forms for License application: <https://www.usmaritime.us/resources>
TWIC info: <https://www.tsa.gov/twic>
Boat Registration: Google your local State Department of Licensing
Vessel Documentation Center 800-799-8362

MATERIAL LIST

Notebook (standard size-3 subject good)
Index cards 3 x 5
Highlighters: Red, Green, Yellow and Black markers (fine tip) #2 pencils or mechanical

Laptop with good Internet connection!
(Smart phones not acceptable for lectures - bigger picture the better)
Reading glasses!

NAVIGATION TOOLS*

Dividers (2 point measuring, not pencil lead - Weems & Plath "Ultra lite")
Parallel Rules (12" minimum)
Pocket Calculator
Good eraser
Magnifying glass (lighted one useful)
Sticky Notes or Arrows (small)

*Navigation tools must be obtained by the first week

ADDITIONAL COSTS:

First Aid/CPR	(cost varies) - usmaritime.us under: Resources/Physicals and First Aid/CPR
Physical	(cost varies)
Drug Test	(cost varies)

Endorsements	\$125.00 each Sail or Towing -- \$200.00 for both (In class)
USCG user fee	\$145.00 (\$100 for application evaluation, \$45 license issuance)
TWIC Card	\$125.00 Pre-register online at: https://www.tsa.gov/twic

NOTES

SEA SERVICE EXPLANATION

Time is documented by **days**. One day equals 4+ hours on the water
Time is valid on any registered or documented vessel after the age of 16

OUPV

OPERATOR OF UNINSPECTED PASSENGER VESSELS (Six Pack)

This license allows you to take 6 or less passengers on **uninspected** vessels (sail included) up to 100 Gross Tons on waters qualified - Near Coastal or Inland

- **360** days experience on Inland waters
- 90 days of which was within last 7 years (recency clause)
- To obtain a Great Lakes endorsement: 90 days service on the Great Lakes
- To obtain an OUPV near coastal: 90 days on Near Coastal applicable waters

MASTER LICENSE

Master Licenses allow you to take an unlimited number of passengers on **inspected** vessels of **25, 50, or 100 Gross Ton** increments on waters (routes) specified - Inland or NC

- **360** Days experience on inland waters
- 90 Days within last 7 years (recency clause) on appropriate tonnage - see GRT explanation
- To obtain Great Lakes endorsement: 90 days of service on Great Lakes
- To obtain a Near Coastal Route: **720** days total of which **360** days are on NC/Ocean/GL
- To obtain Sail endorsement: minimum of 180 days on sailing vessel
360 days for Master Near Coastal

GRT Tonnage Calculations

You will be issued a Masters License for **25, 50 or 100** Gross Tons. To determine what you are eligible for, you will first need to calculate the vessels Gross Tons, then apply time using the table below. Gross Tonnage forms may be downloaded from our web site. Documented vessels list their Gross Tonnage and that value must be used. The following table is an explanation of service requirements for a Master License.

MASTER INLAND (*total 360 days on Inland waters*)

- 100 GRT - 90 days on vessels 51 GRT or above **or** 180 days on vessels 34 GRT or above
- 50 GRT - 90 days on vessels 25 GRT or above **or** 180 days on vessels 17 GRT or above
- 25 GRT - If mariner does not meet tonnage for 50 GRT then a 25 GRT will be issued

MASTER NEAR COASTAL (*total 720 days with 360 days on NC, Oceans or Great Lakes*)

- 100 GRT - 180 days on vessels 51 GRT or above **or** 360 days on vessels 34 GRT or above
- 50 GRT - 180 days on vessels 26 GRT or above **or** 360 days on vessels 17 GRT or above
- 25 GRT - If mariner does not meet tonnage for 50 GRT then a 25 GRT will be issued

TONNAGE UPGRADES (Increase in scope)

Tonnage upgrades will be issued using the above criteria, however:

- 25 to 50 or 50 to 100 Master Inland or Near Coastal, 90 days since issuance on any size vessel!

INLAND TO NEAR COASTAL UPGRADE (Raise of grade)

- Time on NC waters as discussed above apply although applicant may need additional examination or completion of approved class for raising grade from Inland to Near Coastal.

U.S. Coast Guard

Exp. Date: 09/30/2028

SMALL VESSEL SEA SERVICE FORM (OPTIONAL CG-719S)

For Service on Vessels of Less Than 200 Gross Register Tons Only

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552a(e)(3), this Privacy Act Statement serves to inform you of why DHS is requesting the information on this form.

AUTHORITY: 14 U.S.C. § 505; 46 U.S.C. §§ 2103, 7101, 7302, 7502; and 46 CFR Part 10.**PURPOSE:** To determine whether an applicant meets the regulatory standards for issuance of a U.S. Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC).**ROUTINE USES:** Authorized U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) officials will use this information to determine if an applicant meets the qualifications to be issued a MMC, any endorsement within the MMC, or a medical certificate. Additionally, the USCG will use this information to maintain and update merchant mariner transactions. Any external disclosures of information within this record will be made in accordance with DHS/USCG-030, Merchant Seamen's Records, 76 Federal Register 66933 (June 25, 2009).**CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION:** Providing this information is voluntary (including your Social Security number (SSN)). However, failure to provide this information may result in the non-issuance of the MMC.**Section I: Applicant Information** *(Note: Complete One Form Per Vessel)*

Name Last	First	Middle	Reference Number (if applicable)	Social Security Number

Vessel Name	Official number(s) listed on the registration, certificate, or document

Vessel Gross Tons	Length Feet	Inches	Width (if known) Feet	Inches	Depth (if known) Feet	Inches

Propulsion (Motor/Steam/Gas Turbine/Sail/Aux Sail)	Served As (Master/Mate/Operator/Deckhand/Engine etc.)

Name of Body or Bodies of Water Upon Which Vessel was Underway (Geographic Locations)

Section II: Record of Underway ServiceIn the block under the appropriate month, write in the number of days you served for that year *(you can show more than one year)*

January		February		March		April	
Year	Days	Year	Days	Year	Days	Year	Days
May		June		July		August	
Year	Days	Year	Days	Year	Days	Year	Days
September		October		November		December	
Year	Days	Year	Days	Year	Days	Year	Days

Total number of days served on this vessel:		Number of days served on Great Lakes:	
Average hours underway (per day)?		Number of days served on waters shoreward of the boundary line as defined in 46 CFR Part 7:	
Average distance offshore:		Number of days served on waters seaward of the boundary line as defined in 46 CFR Part 7:	

SMALL VESSEL SEA SERVICE FORM (OPTIONAL CG-719S)

Section III: Signature and Verification - Applicant Read Before Signing!

- Owners of vessels may attest to their own experience and provide proof of ownership per 46 CFR 10.232.
- Those who do not own their own vessel must obtain letters or other evidence from licensed personnel or the owners of the vessels listed per 46 CFR 10.232.

I certify that I have served on the above vessel as stated. I am making this statement in order that I, the applicant, may obtain a credential to operate a vessel under the provisions of Title 46 CFR, as applicable. I understand that if I make any false or fraudulent statement in this certification of service, I may be subject to a fine or imprisonment of up to five (5) years or both (18 U.S.C. 1001).

Signature of Applicant

X _____

Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

Owner, Operator or Master Read Before Signing! I certify that the above individual has served on the above vessel as stated. I am making this statement in order that the applicant may obtain a credential to operate a vessel under the provisions of Title 46 CFR, as applicable. I understand that if I make any false or fraudulent statement in this certification of service, I may be subject to a fine or imprisonment of up to five (5) years or both (18 U.S.C. 1001).

Signature and Title of Person Attesting to Experience

X _____

Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

Owner's, Operator's, or Master's Name

Last

First

Middle

Owner's, Operator's, or Master's address and phone number

Street Address

Email Address (Optional)

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The United States Coast Guard estimates that the average burden for this report is 15 minutes. You may submit any comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate or any suggestions for reducing the burden to: Chief, Office of Merchant Mariner Credentialing, 2703 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave, S.E., STOP 7509, Washington, D.C., 20593-7509 or Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1625-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

The Small Vessel Sea Service Form (CG-719S)

The sample shown is available on our web site (Resources). It is used only for vessels less than 200 GRT. Time on larger vessels must be submitted by a letter with all the pertinent information the form requires. Vessels greater than 300 GRT will be considered only upon review. Use only 1 vessel per form. Multiple forms may be used for the same vessel on which you have more than 5 years of sea time.

Physicals:

The Application for Medical Certificate (CG 719K) is available on the website (Resources). If you use your own physician, be sure they fill in this form carefully and completely!

Drug Test:

Applicants must be in a random program or take a **5 panel DOT test by a SAMSHA approved lab** within 6 months of application date. Results need to be scanned as a .pdf and submitted within your application file.

Application Check List

As of September 14, 2026, the National Maritime Center has implemented a new mariner portal, Navita, which will replace the previous submitter process. USMA is working to document the new system in a user-friendly format; however, all existing forms and information referenced in this Info Packet remain relevant.

Use this check list to assure that all your ducks are in a row! All CG forms are available on the website under "Resources". It will link you to the NMC website - scroll down for the appropriate form. Once assembled, all documents must be scanned as .pdf files and submitted to <https://navita.uscg.mil/>. Your **Medical Form (CG-719K)** will need to be submitted separately from your main application. Ensure that your **Application Form (CG-719B)** signed and dated before scanning. Save hard/electronic copies of everything for future reference! If you are near an REC office, you may submit your files in hard copy by appointment only.

- USMA Certificate of Training (We will send you a .pdf that is ready to go)
- Application for Merchant Mariner Credential (CG-719B).
- Coast Guard Medical Form (CG-719K) submitted separately.
- Small Vessel Sea Service Form(s) (CG-719S) or a Letter for vessels larger than 200 GRT
- Periodic Drug Test 5 panel DOT test by a SAMSHA approved lab. Test is good for 6 months.
- Proof of Citizenship - Birth Certificate, Baptismal certificate or current U.S. Passport
- First Aid / CPR card by approved facility within the past year
- TWIC card or receipt of registration
- User Fees \$145 (evaluation and issuance) Use Pay.gov "Pay a Merchant Mariner User Fee "
Save confirmation, and submit with files.