

**COMMERCIAL VESSEL QUALIFICATIONS
ISSUED BY NSW MARITIME**

General Purpose Hand

Endorsement for a person who assists the master and engineer as a general hand in the working of the vessel. The endorsement is recorded by the Authority in the front of a Record of Service book.

Unrestricted MASTERS & Mates Qualifications

Coxswain (Trading & Fishing)

A dual qualification to act as master and/or engineer of vessels less than 12m in length and with engines up to 250kW, operating within Inshore Limits (up to 15 nautical miles from the coast.)

Master Class Five

Master of trading vessels less than 24 metres in length, operating up to 100 nautical miles from the coast. (endorsable to 200 nautical miles)

Skipper Grade Three

Master of licensed fishing boats (LFB) less than 24 metres in length, operating up to 200 nautical miles from the coast.

Mate Class Four (non STCW95)

Bridge Watchkeeper on trading vessels less than 80 metres operating up to Australian Coastal & Middle Waters Limits (AC&MWL) (ie 600 nautical miles from the coast.)

Master Class Four(non STCW95)

Master of trading vessels less than 80 metres in length operating up to 15 nautical miles of the coast and less than 35 metres in length, up to to Australian Coastal & Middle Waters Limits (600 nm)

Skipper Grade Two

Master of licensed fishing vessels less than 80 metres in length operating up to 200 nautical miles of the coast and less than 35 metres in length, up to 600 nautical miles from the coast.

Master Class Three (Non STCW95)

Master of trading vessels up to 80 metres in length, operating up to AC&MW Limits (600 nm).

Unrestricted ENGINEER Qualifications

Coxswain (see above)

Marine Engine Driver Grade Three (MED 3)

Engineer of vessels with propulsion machinery of maximum continuous power of less than 500 kW up to 15 nautical miles from the coast or 250 kW up to 100 nautical miles from the coast.

Marine Engine Driver Grade Two (MED 2)

Engineer of vessels with propulsion machinery of maximum continuous power of less than 750 kW up to 15 miles from the coast or 500 kW up to 200 nautical miles from the coast

Marine Engine Driver Grade One (MED 1)

Engineer of vessels with propulsion machinery of maximum continuous power less than 1500 kW up to 30 nautical miles from the coast 750 kW up to 600 nautical miles from the coast. (Non STCW95)

Engineer Class Three (3)

Chief Engineer of vessels with propulsion machinery of maximum continuous power less than 1500 kW up to 600 nautical miles from the coast (Non STCW95)

The qualifying service and training requirements for each of the qualifications listed on page 2 are found in the tables at the end of this file.

For details on the Recognition of Certificates issued by other state marine authorities or overseas see the separate file "Recognition of Certificates of Competency" at this web site.

Restricted Certificates of Competency

Marine authorities are able to issue certificates in cases where the full national standard requirements are not met. Such certificates specify reduced operational limits and vessel size to those shown for unrestricted certificates and are valid only in the state or territory that issued them. You should be aware that other State or Territory marine authorities are not obliged to recognise certificates marked with restrictions.

The NSW Maritime Authority will issue restricted certificates on a case by case basis to applicants who cannot meet the full eligibility criteria but can satisfy a satisfactory level of experience and competence without compromising safety.

The decision to apply a restriction will be based on:

- i) the assessment of an applicants qualifying service and
- ii) level of the applicant's competence displayed during assessment

You should ask your examiner if any restrictions will be applied and discuss what is required to remove them. If your certificate is restricted for any reason, you may apply to have that restriction reviewed, providing you have satisfactory proof of the necessary additional service, training or other requirements. Requests for review of assessments should be made in writing to the Marine Certification Manager.

To modify or lift a restriction the certificate holder must:

- a) Obtain the additional qualifying service, and record it in a Record of Service Book
- b) Apply to the Authority with evidence proving the additional service
- c) Pay an additional fee and have the endorsement entered into the certificate
- d) Pass any additional examinations or training required by NSW Maritime (Be advised that additional fees will apply for such examinations).

A list of the more common restricted certificates is shown in the following table:

RESTRICTED CERTIFICATES issued by the NSW Maritime Authority

Note: These certificates may not be recognised for use outside of NSW.

Certificate	Endorsement or Restriction	Reason for Restriction
Coxswain (Restricted)	1. Radius of 15nm from a selected port or safe haven	The minimum 12 months service required does not include at least 120 days of coastal service but has at least 60 days.
Coxswain (Restricted)	2. Sheltered waters	The minimum 12 months service required does not include at least 60 days of coastal service .
Coxswain (Restricted)	3. Outboard engines only	The minimum service required does not include at least 60 days of service on vessels with inboard diesel engines.
Coxswain (Restricted)	4. Vessels less than 8 metres in length	The minimum service required does not include at least 180 days of service on vessels 6 metres or more in length
Coxswain (Restricted)	5. Inland waters (non tidal or not connected to sea)	Applicant intends working on non tidal inland waters only and meets regulatory requirement of at least 120 days (incl 900 hours) service including 1 month appropriate service on inland waters. See file on this website – "Inland Waters".
Master 5 (Restricted)	6. Laterally along the coast and within 30nm from coast	The minimum 30 months service required does not include at least 300 days of coastal service but has at least 120 days
Master 5 (Restricted)	7. Operations laterally along coast for 20nm and a maximum of 5nm from the coast in fine and settled weather, not from port to port and only on vessels less than 20m	Applicant held a pre-USL Certificate as Coxswain OR May be added to sheltered waters certificates in cases where less than 120 days coastal service has been accrued and seagoing competence can be demonstrated.
Master 5 (Restricted)	8. Sheltered Waters	The minimum 30 months service required does not include at least 120 days of coastal service.
Master 5 (Restricted)	9. Restricted to a particular vessel, class of vessel and/or area of operation	Service exceeds that required for Coxswain but is less than that required for full Master 5. Quality of service deemed appropriate for the endorsement.
Master 5	(Restricted to Sail Charter Vessels)	Applicant is an experienced yachtmaster who does not have at least 300 days of commercial vessel service (experienced means at least 600 days service including 120 days in command of sailing vessels 8 metres or more has been proven)
Master 5 (Restricted)	10. Inland waters	Applicant intends working on non tidal inland waters only and meets regulatory requirement of at least 240 days (incl 1800 hours) service including 1 month appropriate service on inland waters.and at least 120 days on commercial vessels less than 35 metres. See file on this website – "Inland Waters".
Master 4 (Restricted)	11. Laterally along coast and within 30nm on vessels less than 35 metres	The minimum watchkeeping service required does not include at least 270 days of coastal service but has more than 120 days
Master 4 (Restricted)	12. Operations laterally along coast north & south from port for 20nm and a maximum of 5nm from the coast in fine and settled weather, not between ports	Holder of a pre-USL Certificate as Harbour and River Master OR Added in cases where less than 120 days appropriate coastal service has been accrued and seagoing competence can be demonstrated.
Master 4 (Restricted)	13 . Sheltered waters	The minimum watchkeeping service has been obtained as master of vessels less than 15 metres but more than 13 metres and coastal service (beyond sheltered waters limits) is less than 120 days
Master 4 (Restricted)	14. Inland waters	As for master 5 inland waters plus a further 240 days incl 120 days inland waters service. See file on this website – "Inland Waters".
Master 4 (Restricted)	15. Restricted to a particular vessel, class of vessel and/or area of operation	When the minimum stipulated watchkeeping service exceeds that required for Master 5 but is less than that required for full Master 4
Master 3 (Restricted)	16. Restricted to a particular vessel, class of vessel and/or area of operation	When minimum the minimum stipulated watchkeeping service requird does not meet full national standard but is at least 18 months.

MED 3 (Restricted)	MED3 Restricted to Outboard engined vessels	When the majority of the minimum service required has been obtained on vessels with outboard engines
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Special endorsements

Additional special endorsements are added to certificates for specialised vessel operations such as:

- Special Operations (Dangerous/Hazardous Goods) for vessels handling dangerous cargoes and/or bunker fuels
- Square rig sailing ship endorsements

Approved short training courses are required for these courses and evidence of their completion is to be provided when applying for an endorsement.

Bar endorsements

are required to operate passenger vessels over the following ocean bar ports in NSW with a separate endorsement required for each individual bar port:

Batemans Bay, Bellinger River, Boat Harbour, Brisbane Water, Brunswick Heads, Byron Bay, Camden Haven, Clarence River Crookhaven River, Currarong, Evans Head, Forster, Lake Conjola, Macleay River, Manning River, Merimbula, Minnie Waters Moruya, Nambucca River, Pambula River, Port Macquarie, Richmond River, Sandown River, Shellharbour/Bass Point, Sussex Inlet, Swansea, Tathra, Tomaga River, Trial Bay, Tuross Inlet, Tweed River, Wagonga River, Wonboyn River, Woolgoolga, Woolli River

To obtain a bar endorsement you will need to provide:

- i) Proof of experience in crossing over each bar at least 10 times inward and outward in varying conditions of tide and wind. If you are gaining experience on a passenger carrying vessel the crossings are to be undertaken with you controlling the vessel either :
 - under the supervision of a master (who holds a bar endorsement for that bar) when passengers are on board or
 - by yourself as master without supervision when no passengers are being carried.
- ii) Statutory declarations are necessary to confirm these crossings and you must have the support of your local NSW Maritime boating service officer to ratify this evidence.
- iii) a bar endorsement fee

Note: a separate endorsement fee is charged for each bar endorsement or subsequent change to a restriction.

Boating and PWC licences

NSW legislation requires all persons operating a vessel at a speed of 10 knots or more to hold a NSW General Boating Licence, or if operating a PWC at any speed, to hold a NSW PWC Licence. NSW Maritime Oral Examinations for Master/ Coxswain Certificates of Competency incorporate questions related to the General Boating Licence. Being the holder of a Certificate of Competency as Master/ Coxswain automatically deems you to hold a NSW General Boating Licence, but not a NSW PWC Licence. Only existing certificates holders who already have a PWC Licence endorsement on their certificate are deemed to hold a NSW PWC Licence. Other certificate holders who seek a NSW PWC Licence must apply for this separately. Holders of engineering Certificates of Competency (Marine Engine Driver or Engineer certificates) are not deemed to hold a General Boating Licence or a PWC Licence and must apply separately for either of these licences.

It is important to know that if you are found to have committed an offence which leads to the cancellation of or disqualification from your boat/PWC licence that this will also affect the operations of a commercial vessel. You will not be permitted to operate commercial vessels at speeds of 10 knots or more.

Trading Vessels - Qualifications

Grade	Min Age	Minimum Qualifying Service for Unrestricted Certificate		Training Courses	
		Total	Qualifying service - inclusions		
Coxswain	18	12 months	All service to have been on vessels 5 metres or more length and 75% to have been on vessels over 6 metres and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 months service on vessels with inboard diesel engines and • 6 months of service to be beyond sheltered waters limits 	Cert 2 Transport & Distribution (Marine Operations)	
Master 5	19	30 months	All service to have been on vessels 5 metres or more length <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 months on commercial vessels 12 months of which on vessels >8m • 3 months on a trading vessel • 15 months of service to be beyond sheltered waters limit 	Cert 3 Transport & Distribution (Marine Operations)	
Mate 4	19	36 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 months on commercial vessels >15 metres length 		
Master 4	18 months w/k with Master 5 or 12 months with 2/Mate or Mate 4 Note: w/k = watchkeeping		All service to have been on vessels 15 metres and over and to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 months w/k within past 5 years and • 6 months w/k on trading vessels and • 6 months w/k on vessels less than 80 metres length • 9 months of watchkeeping service to be beyond sheltered waters 	Cert 4 Transport & Distribution (Marine Operations)	
Master 3	18 months w/k with Master 4 or 36 months w/k with 2/Mate or Mate 4		All service to have been on vessels 24 metres and over and to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 months w/k within past 5 years • 6 months w/k on trading vessels • 9 months of service to be beyond sheltered waters limit • 33% of service to have been on voyages of 24 hours or more 	Diploma of Nautical Science (Master 3)	
ENGINEERING Cert		With No Trade	With Trade (ie Marine fitter, diesel or motor mechanic). Proof of trade required.		
Marine Engine Driver Grade 3	18	6 months	3 months	Service to have been engaged in operation, and servicing of diesel inboard engines of 75kW or more power	Certificate 2 in Transport & Distribution (Marine Engine Driving)
Marine Engine Driver Grade 2	18	12 months or 6 months with MED3	3 months	Service to have been engaged in operation, and servicing of diesel inboard engines of 150kW or more power	Certificate 3 in Transport & Distribution (Marine Engine Driving)
Marine Engine Driver Grade 1	19	24 months or 15 months with MED 3 or 9 months with MED 2	6 months	Service to have been engaged in operation, and servicing of diesel inboard engines of 200kW or more power	Certificate 4 in Transport & Distribution (Marine Engine Driving)
Engineer Class 3	19	18 months with MED 1	12 months	Service to have been engaged in operation, and servicing of diesel inboard engines of 400kW or more power .Inshore service reduced by 33% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harbour service reduced by 50% 	Marine Engineer Watchkeepers or Diploma in Transport & Distribution (Maritime Engineering)

Notes: 1. 1 month = 20 working days & 150 hours. Reductions of service of up to 50% may be obtained by completing a NSW RoS book or NMSC ROPES book (Subject to conditions)

2. Persons acting as General Purpose Hands must be at least 15 years of age, completed an approved GPH training course and met medical/eyesight standards.

Fishing Vessels - Qualifications

Grade	Min Age	Minimum Qualifying Service for Unrestricted Certificate		Training Courses	
		Total	Qualifying service requirements		
Coxswain	18	12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All service to have been on vessels 5 metres or more length and 75% to have been on vessels over 6 metres 3 months service on vessels with inboard diesel engines 50% of service to be beyond sheltered waters limits 	Cert 2 Transport & Distribution (Marine Operations) or Cert 3 Seafood Industry (Fishing Operations)	
Skipper Grade 3	19	30 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All service to be on vessels 8 metres or more length 12 months on commercial vessels less than 35 metres 3 months on a fishing vessel 50% of service to be beyond sheltered waters limit 	Cert 3 Transport & Distribution (Marine Operations) or Cert 3 Seafood Industry (Fishing Operations)	
Skipper Grade 2	20	12 months watch keeping with Skipper Grade 3	All service to be on vessels 12 metres and over <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 months w/k within past 5 years 6 months w/k on fishing vessels 50% of service to be beyond sheltered waters limit 	Cert 4 Transport & Distribution (Marine Operations) or Cert 4 Seafood Industry (Fishing Operations)	
Skipper Grade 1	36 months w/k with Skipper 3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 months to be watchkeeping incl 12 months w/k on fishing vessels of 24 metres or more in length 50% of service to be beyond sheltered waters limit 	Diploma of Nautical Science (Master 3)	
ENGINEERING Certs		With No Trade	With Trade (ie Marine fitter, diesel or motor mechanic). Proof of trade required.		
Marine engine driver grade 3	18	6 months	3 months	Service to have been engaged in operation, and servicing of diesel inboard engines of 75kW or more power	Cert 3 Seafood Industry (Fishing Operations) or Cert 2 in Transport & Distribution (Marine Engine Driving)
Marine engine driver grade 2	18	12 months or 6 months with MED3	3 months	Service to have been engaged in operation, and servicing of diesel inboard engines of 150kW or more power	Cert 3 Seafood Industry (Fishing Operations) or Cert 3 in Transport & Distribution (Marine Engine Driving)
Marine engine driver grade 1	19	24 months or 15 months with MED 3 or 9 months with MED 2	6 months	Service to have been engaged in operation, and servicing of diesel inboard engines of 200kW or more power	Cert 4 in Transport & Distribution (Marine Engine Driving)
Engineer Class 3		18 months with MED 1	12 months	Service to have been engaged in operation, and servicing of diesel inboard engines of 400kW or more power <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inshore service reduced by 33% Harbour service reduced by 50% 	Marine Engineer Watchkeepers or Diploma in Transport & Distribution (Maritime Engineering)

Notes: To be a General Purpose Hand a person must be at least 15 years of age, have completed an approved GPH training course and met medical/eyesight standards and have a Record of Service Book endorsed by the NSW Maritime Authority as proof of meeting these requirements.

1 month = 20 working days & 150 hours. Reductions of service of up to 50% may be obtained by completing a NSW RoS book or NMSC ROPES book (Subject to conditions)