

# Mariner Credentialing Program



*“Get the Right Credential, to the Right Mariner, at the Right time”*

# Mariner Credentialing Program



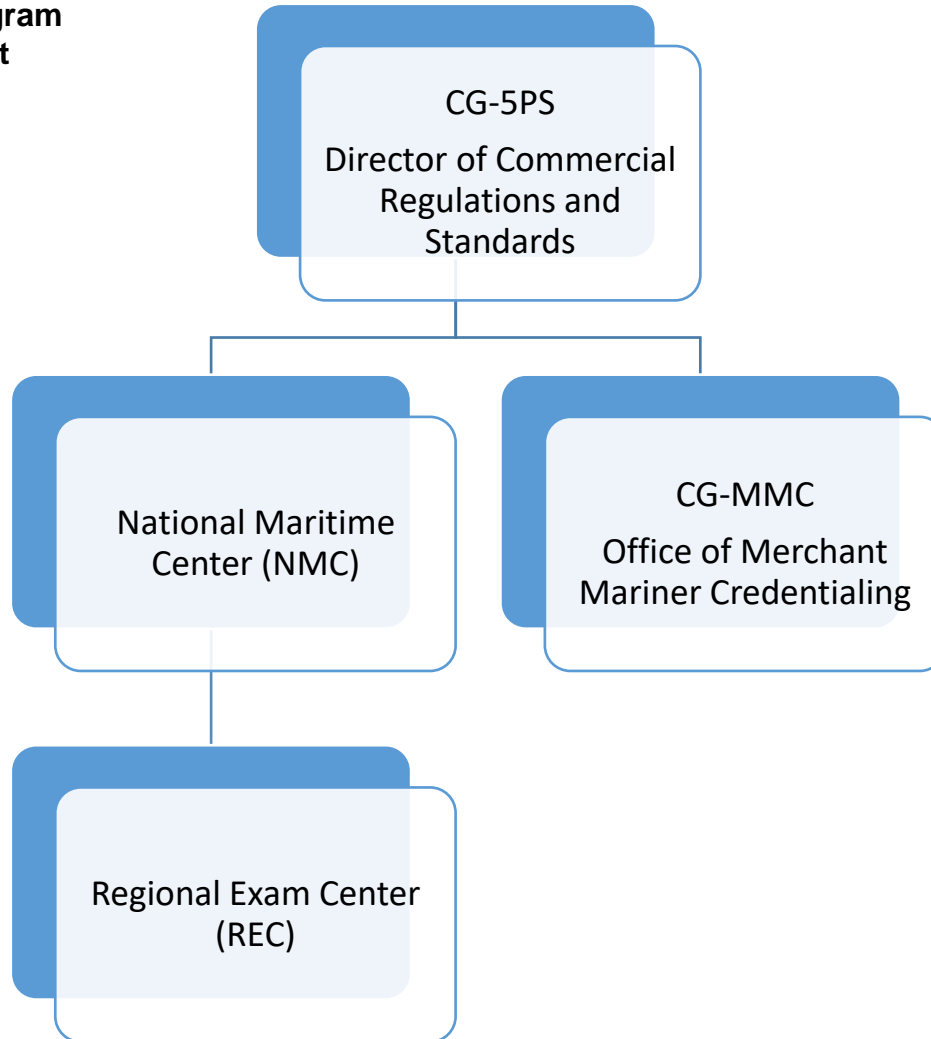
## Key Points:

1. Mariner Credentialing Program (MCP) Overview
2. TWIC Requirements
3. Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) application process
4. Uninspected Passenger Vessel MMC requirements
5. Vessels (<200 GRT) MMC requirements (which includes CFV)
6. Manning for vessels >200 GRT
7. Task Statements 15-24, 16-24, 17-24

# Mariner Credentialing Program



Mariner Credentialing Program  
(MCP) Organizational Chart



# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Transportation Workers Identification Card (TWIC)

TWIC is a credential that is issued by Transportation Security Administration (TSA), this credential is not issued by the United States Coast Guard (USCG).

### ➤ **Requirements found in 46 CFR 10.203**

- ❖ Before a mariner can apply for an original Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC), they must have applied for a TWIC.
- ❖ Mariner background information is provided to the Coast Guard from TSA when the mariner applies for a TWIC. Information from TSA will be the basis for if the mariner can hold a MMC (TWIC approved/denied)
- ❖ All Mariners must have been approved for a TWIC card before an original MMC can be issued to them.

# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Transportation Workers Identification Card (TWIC)

### ➤ Exemptions of TWIC found in Policy Letter 11-15

- ❖ The Coast Guard is allowing mariners without a valid TWIC who operate on board vessels that do not have a security plan to acquire and renew an MMC. Specifically, this will allow mariner's who are inactive or not operating under the authority of their credential, as well as those who serve on vessels that are not required to have a vessel security plan. These vessels include:
  - I. Uninspected passenger vessels of less than 100 gross register tons (GRT); and
  - II. Vessels inspected under subchapter T of the Title of 46 CFR, except those on international voyages; and
  - III. Towing vessels not involved in towing barges inspected under 46 CFR subchapters D, I, or O; and
  - IV. Towing vessels involved in fleeting, docking, or ship assist as excepted in Title 33 CFR, Section 104.105(a)(11)

\*Mariners on the vessels described above will be permitted to **RENEW** an existing credential without submitting proof of holding a valid TWIC

\*\*\*However, mariners who are being issued an *initial* MMC, or never held a TWIC, will need to enroll for a TWIC at a TWIC enrollment center\*\*\*

# Mariner Credentialing Program



## MMC Application Process

### Regional Exam Centers (REC) Locations:

- Anchorage, Alaska
- Baltimore, Maryland
- Boston, Massachusetts
- Charleston, South Carolina
- Honolulu, Hawaii
- Houston, Texas
- Juneau, Alaska
- Long Beach, California
- Memphis, Tennessee
- Miami, Florida
- New Orleans, Louisiana
- New York, New York
- Oakland, California
- Portland, Oregon
- Seattle, Washington
- St. Louis, Missouri
- Toledo, Ohio
- **Monitoring Units:**
- Ketchikan, Alaska
- San Juan, Puerto Rico

# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Submission to an REC

A complete application is submitted to the REC, the **required information** consist of:

1. Proof of TWIC
2. Application CG-719-B
3. Signed Conviction Statement CG 719-C

And depending on the type of application also needed:

4. Drug Test Results CG-719-P
5. Evaluation Fee IAW 46 CFR 10.219

### **Other information submitted may include:**

1. Course Certificates
2. Sea Service
3. Third Party Authorization Form
4. Additional information that the mariner may find important to their application.

# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Safety and Suitability Evaluation Branch

- If SSEB deems the mariner is not safe and suitable for duties, they will issue an additional information letter or denial letter IAW 46 CFR 10.211.
- Some examples of deniable convictions are Homicide, Assault, Destruction of Property, Trafficking, Dangerous Drugs, Larceny, etc.
- If they deem the mariner safe and suitable for duties, then the application will move forward to the next step.



# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Professional Qualifications Evaluation (PQEB)

- Once the application has cleared Security the file is then sent to the Professional Qualifications Evaluation Branch.
- PQEB is responsible for evaluating mariners' professional qualifications. This consists of sea time, training, and/or assessments for the endorsement the mariner is applying for.
- Evaluators utilize qualification checklists that have current regulations and requirements.
- Once assigned to an evaluator, the three most common stages a mariner's application can be in at this stage are:
  - **Awaiting Information (AI)** – This means the mariner needs to provide additional information in order to be approved for an endorsement requested.
  - **Approved to Test (ATT)** – The mariner has been found approved but still needs to meet the testing requirements set for the endorsement the mariner has applied for. ATT letter is valid for one year from the date of approval
  - **Approved to Print (ATP)** – The mariner has met ALL requirements and will be sent to Credential Production for issuance.

# Mariner Credentialing Program

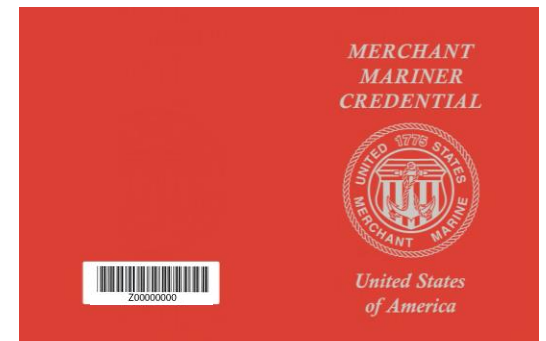
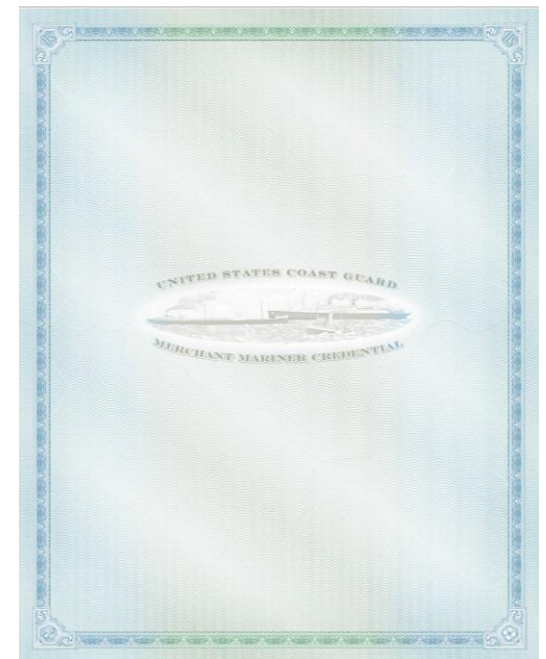


## Medical Evaluation Branch

- MEB processes all applications for a Medical Certificate. It is preferred that the mariners submit these directly to [MEDAIP@uscg.mil](mailto:MEDAIP@uscg.mil).
- All Medical Certificate applications will receive their own Application ID and are processed separately from the MMC application.
- MEB consist of Medical Doctors (MD), Physician Assistants (PA), and Certified Medical Assistants (CMA) that evaluate physical forms that have been provided by mariners per the regulations set forth in the Medical Manual.
- If the mariner is not found fit for duty or amplifying information is needed to complete or attest to any physical limitations a mariner will receive an additional information letter or a denial letter from MEB.
- If the mariner is deemed fit for duty, they will clear medical evaluation. A Medical Certificate and or waiver will be issued to the mariner.

# Mariner Credentialing Program

- **Credential Production**
- Once a mariner has met all the requirements set by the RECs, SSEB and PQEB the mariner's application is then sent to be printed in credential production.
- Credential Production is responsible for the printing and issuing of all Medical Certificates and MMCs.
- All Credentials are printed on a first in first out basis.
- All MMC's are valid for 5 Years



# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Uninspected Passenger Vessel Requirements

**Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessels (OUPV) Near Coastal MMC** endorsement requirements:

Sea Service Requirements	Reference: 46 CFR
<b>Recency</b> - 90 days of sea service in the past 3 years on vessels of any tonnage.	11.201
<b>Near Coastal</b> : 360 days of service in the operation of vessels, <b>OF WHICH</b> , 90 days of service must be on Ocean, NC, or GL.	11.467
<b>Other Requirements</b>	<b>46 CFR</b>
First Aid (completed within 1yr) (original only)	11.201
CPR (must be valid) (original only)	11.201
<b>Exams</b>	<b>46 CFR</b>
Course completion certificate in lieu of CG Examination	10.402
Coast Guard Examination	11.903

# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Vessels (<200 GRT) MMC Requirements (including CFVs)

**Master of Self-Propelled Vessels of Less than 200 GRT Upon Near Coastal Waters** endorsement sea service requirements:

Sea Service Requirements	Reference: 46CFR
<b>Recency:</b> 90 days of sea service within the past 3 years	11.201
<b>Master Less than 200 NC</b>	<b>46 CFR</b>
720 days of service in the deck department on OC, NC, or GL, <b>OF WHICH</b> , service on inland waters may substitute for up to 360 days of the total required service, <b>AND</b> 360 days must have been a master, mate, or equivalent position <b>while holding</b> an endorsements as master, as mate, or as operator of uninspected passenger vessels	11.426
<b>Tonnage Calculations</b>	<b>46 CFR</b>
<b>200 GRT-</b> 180 days (25%) of service on vessels of 101 GRT or above, <b>OR</b> , 360 days service on vessels of 67 GRT or above	11.422

# Mariner Credentialing Program



**Master of Self-Propelled Vessels of Less than 200 GRT Upon Near Coastal Waters**  
endorsement other requirements:

Other Requirements	46 CFR
First Aid (Completed within 1 yr) (Original Only)	11.201
CPR (Must be valid)	11.201
<b>Exams</b>	<b>46 CFR</b>
Course completion certificate in lieu of Coast Guard Examination	11.301
Exam	11.201

# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Master of Self-Propelled Vessels of Less than 100 GRT Upon Near Coastal Waters endorsement sea service requirements:

Sea Service Requirements	46 CFR
<b>Recency</b> - 90 days of service in the past 3 years on vessels	11.201
<b>Master Less Than 100 Near Coastal</b>	<b>46 CFR</b>
720 days of service in the deck department on OC, NC, or GL waters, <b>OF WHICH</b> , service on inland waters may substitute for up to 360 days of the total required service.	11.428
<b>Tonnage Calculations</b>	<b>46 CFR</b>
<b>100 GRT</b> - 180 days (25%) of service on vessels of 51 GRT or above <b>OR</b> , 360 days of service on vessels of 34 GRT or above	11.422
<b>50 GRT</b> - 180 days (25%) of service on vessels of 26 GRT or above <b>OR</b> , 360 days (50%) of service on vessels of 17 GRT or above	11.422

**\*\*If mariner does not meet the tonnage calculation for 100 GRT or 50 GRT they will be eligible for 25 GRT.**

# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Master of Self-Propelled Vessels of Less than 100 GRT Upon Near Coastal Waters endorsement other requirements:

Other Requirements	46 CFR
First Aid (completed within 1 year) (original only)	11.201
CPR (must be valid) (original only)	11.201
<b>Exams</b>	<b>46 CFR</b>
Course completion certificate in lieu of Coast Guard examination	11.201
Exam	11.201



# Mariner Credentialing Program



## Manning Requirements for Vessels >200 GRT (including CFVs)

46CFR 15.805(a) **Master:** There must be an individual holding a valid MMC with endorsement as Master in command of every self-propelled, seagoing documented vessel of 200 GRT and over.

46CFR 15.810(c) **Mate:** An individual in charge of the navigation or maneuvering of a self propelled, uninspected, documented, seagoing vessel of 200 GRT or over must hold an appropriate MMC authorizing service as mate.

46CFR 15.825(a) **Engineer:** An individual in charge of an engineering watch on a mechanically propelled, seagoing, documented vessel of 200 GRT or more, other than an individual described in 15.820 of this subpart, must hold and appropriately endorsed MMC authorizing as an assistant engineer. (Same goes for Chief Engineer in 15.820)

Specific MMC endorsements:

- Master/Mate 500/1600 GRT and above NC/OC
- C/E and A/E (vessels >200GRT and above)
- Master/Mate UFIV 500/1600GRT and above NC/OC
- Chief Engineer UFIV and A/E UFIV (vessels >200 GRT and above)

# Mariner Credentialing Program



**Task Statement #15-24:** NCFSAC make a recommendations that the Commandant of the Coast Guard obtain legislative authority to require CFV operators of less than 200 GT hold a valid Coast Guard issued Merchant Mariner's Credential (MMC), and additional measure to require crewmembers on CFVs hold crew competency certificate or Merchant Mariner's Documents.

## **Benefits of requiring credentialed mariners to operate CFVs:**

- 1) Ensures operators and deckhands have the proper experience to serve on those vessels.
  - I. Having to meet standard total sea service requirements. and
  - II. Operate a standard number of total days on certain waters, i.e. Ocean, Near Coastal, or Great Lakes waters
  - III. Required to have a standard number of days on certain tonnage vessels to qualify for certain endorsements (Master 100, 50, or 25 GRT)
- 2) Ensures operators and deckhands have the proper training to serve on those vessels
  - I. Required to complete Coast Guard approved training which involves seamanship and practical demonstrations.
- 3) Ensures operators and deckhands hold the proper knowledge to serve on those vessels
  - I. Required to complete and pass Coast Guard examinations
- 4) Required to participate in a random drug testing program or consortium.

# Mariner Credentialing Program



**Task Statement #16-24:** NCFSSAC make recommendations on the feasibility of a multi-year phase-in implementation that all CFV mariners on CFVs less than 200 GRT and operating three miles beyond the baseline in near coastal zone obtain and maintain Merchant Mariner Credentials (without a Transportation Workers Identification Credential (TWIC))

- 720 total days of sea service
- 360 days as master, mate, or equivalent while holding an endorsement as master, mate, or OUPV (Master less than 200 GRT NC **ONLY**)
- At least 360 days sea service must have been on NC waters
- First Aid/CPR
- Complete US Coast Guard approved course, OR
- Complete US Coast Guard examination
- Obtain Merchant Mariner Medical Certificate
- Random drug testing program/consortium

**\*Mariner's will qualify for either Master less than 25, 50, 100, or 200 GRT based on vessel tonnage experience and qualifications.**

**46 CFR 15.805(a)(6)-There must be an individual holding a valid MMC with endorsement as master in command of every uninspected passenger vessels of at least 100 GRT.**

# Mariner Credentialing Program



**Task Statement #17-24:** NCFSAC make recommendations on the feasibility of a multi-year phase-in implementation that all CFV mariners serving as Master/Operator of a CFVs of Less than 200 GRT and operating three miles beyond the baseline in a near coastal zone obtain and maintain an Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessels (OUPV) Merchant Mariner Credential (Without a TWIC requirement.)

- 360 total days of sea service
- At least 90 days on Near Coastal waters
- First aid/CPR
- Complete US Coast Guard approved course OR
- Complete Coast Guard examination
- Obtain Merchant Mariner Medical Certificate
- Random drug testing program/consortium

**46 CFR 15.605(b)- Every self-propelled UPV as defined by 46 U.S.C. 2101(42)(B) must be under the direction and control of an individual holding a MMC endorsed as or equivalent to an OUPV.**

# Mariner Credentialing Program



**Thank you**

Brian T. Eichelberger

CG-MMC-1

[www.dco.uscg.mil/national\\_maritime\\_center](http://www.dco.uscg.mil/national_maritime_center)