

Request for Working Group Membership for Merchant Mariner Examination Review

Section 315 of the 2015 Coast Guard Authorization Act (CGAA) requires the United States Coast Guard to commission a working group to review existing and new examination questions for accuracy, and review the accuracy and availability of examination references, length of examinations, and the use of standard technologies in administering, scoring, and analyzing examinations.

To address the tasks to be performed and in keeping with the membership structure of the group as specified in the CGAA, the working group is to include:

- Representatives from Coast Guard-approved training providers
- A Deck representative from the State Maritime Academies
- An Engineering representative from the State Maritime Academies
- Credentialed Deck officers or ratings
- Credentialed Engineering officers or ratings
- A Human Performance Technology representative
- A member of the Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee
- Members of other Federal Advisory Committees as needed to review industry segment specific subject matter.

To determine membership in the working group, the Coast Guard is seeking résumés from interested parties in order to identify the most qualified persons to complete the required review. Résumés should include (but are not limited to) applicable information as follows:

- U.S. Deck or Engineering MMC endorsements held
- Seagoing experience, including:
 - Capacity served
 - Vessel type
 - Tonnage
 - Routes
 - Cargo experience
 - Modes of propulsion
 - Horsepower

- Areas of maritime-specific subject matter expertise including training and experience. As the review process continues, the Coast Guard will need working group members with extensive experience in specific industry segments such as towing on various routes, gas propulsion modes, etc. Greater detail provided by applicants on résumés will allow a more appropriate distribution of questions within specific topic areas.
- Association with State Maritime Academies or approved training organizations including subject matter instructed and experience in training/assessment development
- Current membership in a maritime-related advisory committee(s) such as:
 - Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Council (MERPAC)
 - Towing Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC)
 - Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee (MEDMAC)
 - National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee (NOSAC)
- Human performance technology expertise.

Cover letters expressing interest in participating in the work group should identify which membership category the party seeks consideration for. Résumés with supporting experience should be attached to the cover letter. Requests should reach the Coast Guard on or before November 10, 2017, via one of the following methods:

- By e-mail: Cathleen.B.Mauro@uscg.mil
- By fax: (202) 372-8382
- By mail: Cathleen Mauro
Commandant (CG-MMC-1) US
Coast Guard Stop 7509
2703 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE Washington,
DC 20593-7509.

Current members of the working group do not need to re-apply for continued membership. However, if they no longer wish to participate, please notify the Coast Guard by e-mail at the address listed above.

The process for the examination review is being conducted through a combination of in-person meetings and correspondence. In-person meetings will be held at the U.S. Coast Guard National Maritime Center in Martinsburg, WV.

In accordance with the terms of the 2015 CGAA, the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App) shall not apply to this working group. Members may be subject to an ethics review to ensure no conflict of interest exists, and will be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement. Members selected for the working group will be appointed and serve as a Special Government Employee as defined in section 202(a) of Title 18, United States Code. After selection, a candidate for appointment as a Special Government Employee will be required to complete a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (DHS 11000-60GE Form 450). The Coast Guard may not release the reports or the information in them to the public except under an order issued by a Federal court or as otherwise provided under the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Only the Designated Coast Guard Ethics Official or their designee may release a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report. Applicants can obtain this form by visiting the website of the Office of Government Ethics (<https://www.oge.gov/>).

The Department of Homeland Security does not discriminate in selection of working group members on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability and genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, or any other non-merit factor. The Department of Homeland Security strives to achieve a widely diverse candidate pool for all of its recruitment actions.

If you have questions about this announcement, contact Cathleen Mauro, Maritime Personnel Qualifications Division (CG-MMC-1), U.S. Coast Guard; at Cathleen.B.Mauro@uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

/K. R. Martin/

Kirsten R. Martin
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Commanding Officer