

## Merchant Mariner Medical Manual, Commandant Instruction (COMDTINST) M16721.48 Published

The Coast Guard announces the availability of the Merchant Mariner Medical Manual, COMDTINST M16721.48 (see <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=USCG-2018-0041-0041>). The guidance in this Manual should assist medical practitioners, the maritime industry, individual mariners, and Coast Guard personnel in evaluating a mariner applicant's physical and medical status to meet the requirements of the merchant mariner medical certificate. This Manual incorporates and consolidates prior guidance on the medical evaluation of merchant mariners contained in several Coast Guard documents. The Manual includes guidance on the medical certificate and related processes, including procedures for application, issuance, and cancellation of the medical certificate.

The Merchant Mariner Medical Manual, COMDTINST M16721.4, is effective as of **September 9, 2019** and is available on the internet at <https://www.uscg.mil/nmc>.

For information about this document or to suggest changes, email Adrienne Buggs, M.D., United States Coast Guard, Office of Merchant Mariner Credentialing at [MMCPolicy@uscg.mil](mailto:MMCPolicy@uscg.mil).

Sincerely,

/K. R. Martin/

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