

Examination and Training for Tides and Currents

Beginning next year, on July 1, 2025, the Coast Guard will begin incorporating use of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) electronic [tide and current](#) information into national deck officer examinations using paper reproductions of NOAA website information. Questions incorporating NOAA electronic tide and current information will be included in the [sample examinations](#) published on the [National Maritime Center \(NMC\) website](#) in September 2024. Questions requiring knowledge of the print tide and current tables will continue to be included on Coast Guard examinations and the reprints will remain as examination room reference material. The Coast Guard will continue to evaluate the future relevance of such questions through the examination working group process.

Maritime training providers should consider updating instructional materials accordingly. Curriculum updates solely focused on the use of NOAA electronic tide and current information are not considered significant in accordance with 46 CFR 10.403(a)(7). All updates should be recorded in the required record of change and submitted to the NMC at the next course/program renewal. The Coast Guard does not anticipate these changes will impact the length of approved courses/programs. Training providers are reminded that STCW still requires mariners have a thorough knowledge of and ability to use nautical charts and publications.

For questions, contact the NMC Customer Service Center by using the [NMC online chat system](#), by e-mailing IASKNMC@uscg.mil, or by calling 1-888-IASKNMC (427-5662).

Sincerely,

/B. W. Clare/

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Commanding Officer