

Merchant Mariner Examination Working Group 2026 Schedule

[46 USC 7510](#) requires the United States Coast Guard to establish a working group to review existing and new examination questions for accuracy and the availability of examination references. Participation in these working groups is an opportunity to assist the National Maritime Center (NMC) and your fellow mariners in making long-term improvements to the knowledge examination system. Your expertise is needed—let your voice be heard.

The review of older deck questions is nearing completion. Moving forward, we will continue reviewing newly written questions and conducting additional reviews of questions with high failure rates. The working groups may also transition to drafting new questions. For engine-related questions, reviews of both new and existing questions continue.

Instructions for requesting participation in a working group are available on the [Examinations page](#) of the [NMC website](#). Once on the page, click **Working Group** to access the relevant information. Once your request is reviewed, we will contact you with further details. Requests may be submitted at any time.

2026 Schedule

Date	Type	Location
Feb 3-5, 2026	Deck	NMC (Martinsburg, WV)
Mar 17-19, 2026	Engine	NMC (Martinsburg, WV)
May 5-7, 2026	Deck	NMC (Martinsburg, WV)
Jun 23-25, 2026	Engine	NMC (Martinsburg, WV)
Sep 15-17, 2026	Deck	NMC (Martinsburg, WV)
Oct 20-22, 2026	Engine	NMC (Martinsburg, WV)

Note: Date and location are subject to change based on the number of attendees.

The schedule and any updates will be posted on the [Examinations page](#). Please continue to check the website for updates. If you have any questions, you can contact us via e-mail at nmcexamworkinggroup@uscg.mil or phone at (206) 815-6893.

Sincerely,

/P. A. Drayer/

Patrick A. Drayer
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection