

Frequently Asked Questions: Courses

1. How do I locate a course approved by the United States Coast Guard (USCG)?

To view courses approved by the USCG, visit our [Courses & DE/QA](#) webpage and click on Approved Courses.

2. How do I know if a course will cover a specific exam?

To determine if a specific course will cover the exams you are required to take you will need to contact the school directly. To find their contact information, visit our [Courses & DE/QA](#) webpage and click on Approved Courses.

3. I took a course through a USCG-approved school/program. When does my course certificate expire?

The validity period during which an applicant may use a course completion to meet credentialing requirements is as follows:

- Any time limit prescribed by regulation, e.g., 5 years for the “Tankship Dangerous Liquids” course specified in 46 CFR 13.201(c)(4), and
- One year for courses that substitute for an examination given by the Coast Guard, and
- Five years for all other courses.

4. I received an Approval to Test or Awaiting Information letter; however, I took a course for this. Why was the course not accepted?

There could be several reasons why the course you provided is not acceptable.

- The course certificate may have been expired when received by the National Maritime Center (NMC). Please refer to Question 3 of this FAQ list to see what the timeframes are for specific exams. Once expired, the course certificate is no longer accepted by the NMC.

- The course you took may not have covered all exam requirements. Please contact the school you attended to speak with them regarding this issue and, if needed, work with them to have it resolved.
- You may have submitted your application prior to the course being completed or before the course data was submitted.
- The course taken could have been completed during a time that was outside of the course effective dates. This means that the school did not have the appropriate USCG approval.
- If the issue is outside of these reasons or if you are unable to resolve the issue, please contact the NMC's [Customer Service Center](#).