How to Obtain a Merchant Mariner Credential

1. If applicable, obtain a Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

2. Submit CG-719B (Application for Merchant Mariner Credential) & applicable forms to a local Regional Exam Center (REC) by e-mail, mail, or in person

3. Application content is verified by the REC and forwarded to the National Maritime Center (NMC) for processing

4. Application is reviewed
   - Security (Criminal record review, verify citizenship)
   - Medical (Hold a valid medical certificate or 719K/E form for entry level or 719K form)
   - Professional Qualifications (service experience, training, examinations)

5. Mariner credential is printed

6. Credential is mailed to mariner

Notes

1. For TWIC Information: [www.tsa.gov/for-industry/twic](http://www.tsa.gov/for-industry/twic). To determine if a TWIC is needed, see Policy Letter No. 11-15 ([www.uscg.mil/nmc/](http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/))


3. Only CG-719K or CG-719KE forms can be received and processed directly at the NMC

4. Once approved to test, mariners have 1 calendar year to complete their qualifying tests

Please remember:

- Mariners may e-mail or mail their application (CG-719B) to a local REC.
- It is highly recommended to use [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov) to pay all fees associated with an MMC. Include a copy of the pay.gov receipt with the MMC application.
- In order to avoid delays, remember to include ALL documentation, training, sea time, and medical records.
- Mariners with an e-mail address will receive an e-mail each time the status of their credential(s) changes.
- The NMC website is available 24/7 and provides additional information about the Merchant Mariner Credentialing Program. ([www.uscg.mil/nmc](http://www.uscg.mil/nmc) (LiveChat available 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST M-F))
- Have a question? Chat, e-mail or call the NMC. E-mail: iasknmc@uscg.mil. Phone: 1-888-IASKNMC (1-888-427-5662)

Mariners are contacted by mail via an Awaiting Information letter if additional clarification is required.