

Information for Physicians and Other Licensed Healthcare Providers, USCG Form 719K/E (04/17)

For the most current medical information available, please contact the National Maritime Center (NMC) Medical Helpdesk, at marinermedical@uscg.mil, or 1-888-IASKNMC (427-5662).

1. CG-719K/E Merchant Mariner Credential Medical Examination Report:

- Ensure that all blocks are filled in on examination forms. Forms with missing information will incur delays in processing.
- **Section II Food Handler Certification:** Is applicant free of communicable disease? Select appropriate response.
- **Section III Physical Information:** Include applicant height and weight.
- **Section IV Demonstration of Physical Ability:**
 - If the examining medical practitioner doubts the applicant's ability to meet the guidelines contained within this table, the practitioner should require that the applicant demonstrate the ability to meet the guidelines.
 - All demonstrations of ability should be performed by the applicant without assistance.
 - Any prosthesis normally worn by the applicant and other aid devices such as prescription glasses may be used by the applicant in all physical demonstrations except when the use of such would prevent the proper wearing of mandated personal protective equipment (PPE).
 - If an applicant is unable to meet any of the guidelines contained within the table on page 8 of the examination form, the examining medical practitioner should provide information on the degree or severity of the applicant's inability to meet the guidelines.

2. Fitness for Certification Determination:

- Fitness for certification determinations require that medical practitioners understand seafarers work in a multitude of environments and conditions that can impact their physical condition and may prevent them from obtaining timely medical care. Remote locations with minimal, if any, medical resources can be common and the loss of a functioning mariner on a vessel can significantly impact the rest of the crew, both in regards to routine and emergency duties.
- Physical ability requirements are discussed in [Merchant Mariner Medical Manual, Commandant Instruction Manual \(COMDTINST M16721.48\), Chapter 6](#), and must be considered in relation to the seafarer's medical condition. It should be understood that mariners must be able to perform both routine and emergency procedures.
- Recommendations for certification by treating practitioners are taken into consideration by the National Maritime Center personnel evaluating the medical condition of the mariner. It should be noted, however, that treating practitioners often make recommendations without fully understanding fitness for certification guidelines and the marine transportation system (MTS) safety needs. Final determination will be made in accordance with the overriding safety needs of the MTS.