

Recognition Certificate

STCW and STCW-F Convention

- A guideline for applicants



SJÓVINNUSTÝRIÐ
FAROESE MARITIME AUTHORITY

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Recognition Certificate - A guideline for applicants

If a foreign seafarer is to sign on a Faroese fishing vessel 15 meters or above or a vessel registered in the Faroese International Ship Registry (FAS), he or she needs a Recognition Certificate. If a seafarer is to sign on a merchant vessel registered in the Faroese National Ship Registry, he or she needs a Faroese certificate of competency.

A Recognition Certificate is a certificate, which recognizes and approves the applicant's Certificate of Competency issued according to the STCW or STCW-F Convention. It is therefore a requirement that the foreign seafarer applies for a Recognition Certificate prior to boarding the Faroese vessel.

Who can apply for a Recognition Certificate?

Faroese recognition of foreign Certificates of Competency, that are issued according to STCW, follows the STCW Convention reg. I/10, which is declared in pursuance with Executive Order No. 5 from 30th January 2002. The executive order states that only recognized countries can apply for Recognition Certificates for their seafarers. The list of recognized countries is available on our web page www.fma.fo.

Faroese recognition of foreign Certificates of Competency, that are issued according to STCW-F, follows the STCW-F Convention reg. I/7 and is implemented under Executive Order No. 66 of June 14th, 2016. Only Certificates of Competencies issued by countries that have signed the STCW-F Convention can be endorsed in accordance with the convention.

Who needs a Recognition Certificate?

All seafarers who hold one of the ranks mentioned below and sign on a Faroese vessel must apply for a Recognition Certificate:

STCW reg. II/1, II/2, II/3, III/1, III/2, III/3, III/6, IV/2, V/1 or VII/1

STCW-F reg. II/1, II/2, II/3 or II/4

If the required certificate to the position is national, e.g. Certificate of Competency in Motor Operation or sailing, it is still required to have a recognition certificate according to STCW or STCW-F.

The FMA can only issue recognition certificates based on certificate of competencies that are issued according to STCW or STCW-F and cannot recognize foreign certificates that are issued based on national legislation in foreign countries alone.

If you have questions regarding which recognition certificate is required for the position or if a foreign certificate can be recognized, you are more than welcome to contact us at fma@fma.fo.

The application process

The seafarer's crewing agency applies for the Recognition Certificate by using our online application system, which is available on our website www.fma.fo. This system allows the crewing agency to process the whole application online. It is necessary to contact the Faroese Maritime Authority to receive a username and password to be able to enter this website and process the application. If the agency already has a username and a password, the application process can begin.

Recognition Certificate or CRA?

When applying for a Recognition Certificate, it is possible, to apply for a Certificate of Receipt of Application (CRA) while the application is being processed. The application for a CRA is carried out in the same way as the Recognition Certificate in the online application system.

A CRA is valid for a maximum of three months. The crewing agency needs to collect the needed documents required in order to process the application for the Recognition Certificate within the validity period of the CRA. It is important to note that only one CRA is issued for each application for Recognition Certificate. Nonetheless, exceptions to this rule can be made in various circumstances.

Required documents

A comprehensive list of required documents for recognition certificates is available [here](#).

It is a minimum requirement that the applicant has these valid documents, before issuing a temporary certificate (CRA):

- Certificate of Competency (must be valid for at least the next six months)
- Valid medical certificate issued by a country that has implemented the STCW convention and ILO
- Passport
- Declaration of Employment (available [here](#))

Cost

The payment of 855 DKK is carried out in the online application system, when the application is submitted. The payment is settled with a payment card (VISA card, Dankort or Mastercard) and is completed with a receipt of payment.

Validity of the Recognition Certificate

The Recognition Certificate is valid until the applicant's Certificate of Competency expires. Keep in mind that the applicant's Certificate of Competency must be valid for at least the following six months to be eligible to receive a Recognition Certificate. When the Recognition Certificate expires, it is necessary to submit a new application for a Recognition Certificate, if needed.

If you have any questions concerning the application process of Recognition Certificates, you are more than welcome to contact us at fma@fma.fo.