

Translation. Only the Faroese version has legal validity)

Executive Order No. 105 of 5 August 2015 on certificates of competency and qualification requirements to manning on ships as last amended by Executive Order No. 115 of 27 June 2025

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¹⁾ Under the provisions in section 10 subsection 1, section 11 subsection 1, section 12 subsections 1, 4 and 5, section 17 subsection 4, section 24 and section 25 subsection 1 in Parliamentary Act No. 63 of 3 July 1998 on manning of ships as amended by Parliamentary Act No. 31 of 19 May 2008, Parliamentary Act No. 75 of 25 May 2009, Parliamentary Act No. 71 of 30 May 2011, Parliamentary Act No. 52 of 12 May 2015 and Parliamentary Act No. 168 of 16 December 2021, the following shall be laid down:

Chapter 1

Merchant ships

On service as a seafarer, motorman and ship's assistant

Section 1. Seafarers who serve as ordinary seafarer, ordinary motorman or ordinary ship's assistant on seagoing merchant ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above shall be 16 years of age and shall hold a valid health certificate for seafarers.

Section 2. Seafarers who serve as able seafarer, able motorman or able ship's assistant on seagoing merchant ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above shall be 18 years of age and shall hold a valid health certificate for seafarers and either:

- 1) have completed 18 months seagoing service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above,

- 2) have passed the basic training module for ship's assistant and have completed 12 months seagoing service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above, or
- 3) have passed the ship's assistant training programme for persons holding a certificate of apprenticeship specialized in metal or other relevant vocational education and training, and have completed 12 months seagoing service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above.

Section 3. Seafarers who serve as able seafarer or able ship's assistant on seagoing merchant ships with a gross tonnage of 500 or above, shall before 1 January 2017 hold a certificate of proficiency as able seafarer or able ship's assistant, respectively.

Subsection 2. Seafarers who serve as able motorman or able ship's assistant on seagoing merchant ships with a propulsion power of 750 kW or above, shall before 1 January 2017 hold a certificate of proficiency as able motorman or able ship's assistant, respectively.

Subsection 3. Foreign seafarers who pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 serve on ships registered in the Faroese International Ship Register, may hold a certificate of proficiency issued by the native country.

Subsection 4. A certificate of proficiency under subsection 3 is conditional upon the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) having notified that the Member State concerned, in its communication to IMO, has demonstrated that the certificate of proficiency fully meets the requirements laid down in the STCW Convention.

On certificate of proficiency as ship's assistant on merchant ships - STCW Reg. II/5 and Reg. III/5

Section 4. In order to acquire a certificate of proficiency as an able ship's assistant, the applicant shall be 18 years of age and shall:

- 1) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of proficiency entitles the holder, including be fit for lookout duty,
- 2) meet the requirements for acquiring a watchkeeping certificate pursuant to the STCW Convention Reg. II/4 and III/4 and have passed either:
 - a) the final module for ship's assistant and have completed 18 months seagoing service, hereof 12 months deck service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above and 6 months engine duty on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 100 kW or above,
 - b) the final module for ship's assistant and have completed 12 months seagoing service, hereof 6 months deck service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above and 6 months engine duty on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 100 kW or above including an approved training record book, or
 - c) the ship's assistant training programme for persons holding a certificate of apprenticeship specialized in metal, electricity or other relevant vocational education and training, and have completed 12 months seagoing service hereof 6 months deck service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above and 6

months engine duty on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 100 kW or above.

Subsection 2. 6 months of the approved deck service pursuant to subsection 1 No. 2, shall have been completed on merchant ships.

*Subsection 3.*¹⁾ (Repealed).

On certificate of proficiency as able seafarer on merchant ships - STCW Reg II/5

Section 5.¹⁾ In order to acquire a certificate of proficiency as an able seafarer, the applicant shall be 18 years of age and shall:

- 1) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of proficiency entitles the holder, including be fit for lookout duty,
- 2) meet the requirements for acquiring a watchkeeping certificate pursuant to the STCW Convention Reg. II/4,
- 3) have passed the deck rating education or have passed the final module for ship's assistant, and either have:
 - a) completed 12 months deck service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above including an approved training record book, or
 - b) 18 months deck service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above.

Subsection 2. 6 months of the approved deck service pursuant to subsection 1 No. 2, shall have been completed on merchant ships.

Subsection 3. Seafarers who have completed 12 months seagoing service on seagoing ships as able seafarer between the period 1 January 2007 and 1 January 2012, are considered to comply with the requirements prescribed in subsection 1 No. 2.

On certificate of proficiency as able motorman on merchant ships – STCW Reg. III/5

Section 6. In order to acquire a certificate of proficiency as able motorman, the applicant shall be 18 years of age and shall:

- 1) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of proficiency entitles the holder,
- 2) meet the requirements for acquiring a watchkeeping certificate pursuant to the STCW Convention Reg. III/4 and have passed either:
 - a) the final module for ship's assistant and have completed 12 months engine duty on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 100 kW or above,
 - b) the final module for ship's assistant and have completed 6 months engine duty on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 100 kW or above including an approved training record book, or

- c) the ship's assistant training programme for persons holding a certificate of apprenticeship specialized in metal, electricity or other relevant vocational education and training, and have completed 12 months engine duty on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 100 kW or above.

*Subsection 2.*¹⁾ (Repealed).

Certificates of competency for deck officers on merchant vessels

Section 7. In addition to the specific requirements for acquiring certificates of competency stated under the individual certificates, the applicant shall:

- 1) be of age and not subject to guardianship according to section 5 of the Guardianship Act or to special guardianship according to section 7 of the Guardianship Act,
- 2) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder, including be fit for lookout duty,
- 3) hold a valid certificate as a radio operator in GMDSS, GOC or ROC,
- 4) have passed the exam or test required for the issue of the certificate of competency within 5 years prior to the date of issue of the certificate of competency, and
- 5) if not otherwise stated, have completed the prescribed seagoing service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above.

Certificates of competency in sailing on merchant ships – STCW Reg. II/3

Section 8. In order to acquire a certificate of competency in sailing on merchant ships, the applicant shall:

- 1) meet the requirements for acquiring a watchkeeping certificate for bridge watch in accordance with the STCW Convention Reg. II/4 and hold:
- 2) a test in competency in sailing and either have passed:
 - a) the basic training module for ship's assistant and have completed a total of 3 months seagoing service,
 - b) the ship's assistant training programme for persons holding a certificate of apprenticeship specialized in metal, electricity or other relevant vocational education and training, and have completed a total of 3 months seagoing service, or
 - c) have completed a total of 12 months seagoing service.

Subsection 2. If the exam in competency in sailing is passed before 1 January 2015, a specific course established by the Ministry of Education, Research and Culture is required, before the requirement in subsection 1 No. 2 is fulfilled.

Mate 4th class on merchant ships – STCW Reg. II/3

Section 9.¹⁾ In order to acquire a certificate of competency as mate 4th class on merchant ships, the applicant shall have passed the master (home trade) exam and either have passed:

- 1) the basic training module for ship's assistant, have completed 18 months seagoing service including an approved training record book,
- 2) the final module for ship's assistant, have completed 15 months seagoing service including an approved training record book, or
- 3) have completed 36 months seagoing service.

Subsection 2. 6 months of the approved seagoing service pursuant to subsection 1 shall have been completed on merchant ships.

Master (home trade) on merchant ships – STCW Reg. II/3

Section 10. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as master (home trade) on merchant ships, the applicant shall be 20 years of age and shall:

- 1) hold a valid certificate of competency as mate 4th class on merchant ships,
- 2) be a Danish citizen and
- 3) have completed 12 months seagoing service under conditions where a certificate of competency as mate 4th on merchant ships, is prescribed.

Mate 3th class on merchant ships – STCW Reg. II/1 and II/2

Section 11. ¹⁾In order to acquire a certificate of competency as mate 3th class on merchant ships, the applicant shall have passed the master exam, and either:

- 1) have passed the practical training as deck officer under an approved training programme, have completed 12 months seagoing service including an approved training record book,
- 2) have passed the basic training module for ship's assistant, have completed 18 months seagoing service including an approved training record book,
- 3) have passed the final module for ship's assistant, have completed 15 months seagoing service including an approved training record book, or
- 4) have completed 36 months seagoing service.

Subsection 2. 12 months of the approved seagoing service prescribed in subsection 1, shall have been completed on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 500 or above. However, 6 months shall have been completed on merchant ships with a gross tonnage of 500 or above outside near-coastal voyages.

Subsection 3. Applicants who have passed the master exam and who meet the requirement stipulated in subsection 2, but have not completed seagoing service on merchant ships, may acquire a certificate of competency as mate 3rd class on merchant ships, with endorsement that the certificate of competency does not entitle the applicant to serve as chief mate.

Subsection 4. Applicants who have passed the master exam and who meet the requirement stipulated in subsection 2, but have not completed seagoing service outside near-coastal voyages may acquire a certificate of competency as mate 3rd class on merchant ships, with

endorsement that the certificate of competency entitles the holder only to serve on ships in near-coastal voyages.

Subsection 5. Applicants, who have passed the master exam and who meet the requirement stipulated in subsection 2, but have not completed seagoing service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 500 or above, may acquire a certificate of competency as mate 3rd class, with endorsement that the certificate of competency entitles the holder only to serve on ships with a gross tonnage below 500.

Master on merchant ships – STCW Reg. II/2

Section 12. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as master on merchant ships, the applicant shall:

- 1) hold a valid certificate of competency as mate 3rd class on merchant ships,
- 2) be a Danish citizen and
- 3) have completed seagoing service under conditions where a certificate of competency as mate 3rd on merchant ships, is prescribed, in either
 - a) 24 months, 12 months of which as the chief mate or the only mate, or
 - b) 36 months as mate.

Mate 2nd class on merchant ships – STCW Reg. II/2

Section 13.¹⁾ In order to acquire a certificate of competency as mate 2nd class on merchant ships, the applicant shall have passed the master exam, and either:

- 1) have passed the practical training as deck officer under an approved training programme, have completed 12 months seagoing service including an approved training record book,
- 2) have passed the basic training module for ship's assistant, have completed 18 months seagoing service including an approved training record book,
- 3) have passed the final module for ship's assistant, have completed 15 months seagoing service including an approved training record book, or
- 4) have completed 36 months seagoing service.

Subsection 2. 12 months of the approved seagoing service prescribed in subsection 1, shall have been completed on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 500 or above. However, 6 months shall have been completed on merchant ships with a gross tonnage of 500 or above outside near-coastal voyages.

Mate 1st class on merchant ships – STCW Reg. II/2

Section 14. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as mate 1st class on merchant ships, the applicant shall either:

- 1) hold a valid certificate of competency as mate 2nd class, or

- 2) hold a valid certificate of competency as mate 3rd class and comply with the requirements to acquire a certificate of competency as mate 2nd class, and
- 3) have completed 12 months seagoing service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 500 or more under conditions where a certificate of competency as mate 2nd or 3rd class on merchant ships, is prescribed.

Master – STCW Reg. II/2

Section 15. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as master on merchant ships, the applicant shall be a Danish citizen and either:

- 1) hold a valid certificate of competency as mate 1st or 2nd class, or
- 2) hold a valid certificate of competency as mate 3rd class and comply with the requirements to acquire a certificate of competency as mate 2nd class, and
- 3) have completed seagoing service on ships with a gross tonnage of 500 or more under conditions where a certificate of competency as mate 2nd or 3rd class on merchant ships, is prescribed in either:
 - a) 24 months, 12 months of which as the chief mate or the only mate, or
 - b) 36 months as mate.

Chapter 2

Fishing vessels

Ordinary seafarer and ordinary motorman

Section 16. An ordinary seafarer or ordinary motorman shall be 16 years of age and shall hold:

- 1) a valid health certificate for seafarers, and
- 2) a valid basic safety training course for seafarers on fishing vessels pursuant to the STCW-F Convention Reg. III/I.

Subsection 2. Seafarers who, before 29 September 2012, have completed 12 months seagoing service on seagoing ships shall be exempted from the requirements stipulated in subsection 1, No. 2.

Able seafarer and motorman

Section 17. An able seafarer and able motorman shall be 16 years of age and shall hold:

- 1) a valid health certificate for seafarers, and
- 2) a valid basic safety training course for seafarers on fishing vessels pursuant to the STCW-F Convention Reg. III/I and either:

- a) have completed 18 months deck service or engine duty, respectively, on seagoing ships,
- b) have passed the basic training module for ship's assistant and have completed 12 months deck service or engine duty, respectively, on seagoing ships, or
- c) hold a certificate of apprenticeship specialized in metal, electricity or other relevant vocational education and training, and have completed 12 months service as ordinary motorman on seagoing ships.

Subsection 2. Seafarers who, before 29 September 2012, have completed 12 months seagoing service on seagoing ships shall be exempted from the requirements stipulated in subsection 1, No. 2.

Certificates of competency for deck officers on fishing vessels with a length of 15 metres or above or with a scantling number of 100 or above

Section 18. In addition to the specific requirements for acquiring certificates of competency stated under the individual certificates, the applicant shall be of age and not subject to guardianship according to section 5 of the Guardianship Act or to special guardianship according to section 7 of the Guardianship Act and shall:

- 1) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder, including be fit for lookout duty,
- 2) hold a valid certificate as a radio operator in GMDSS, GOC or ROC,
- 3) no more than 5 years prior to the issuance of the certificate of competency, have passed the examination or test required for obtaining the relevant certificate of competency, and
- 4) if not otherwise stated, have completed the prescribed seagoing deck service on seagoing fishing vessels with a length of 12 metres or above or a scantling number of 100 or above.

Certificate of competency in sailing on fishing vessels

Section 19. In order to acquire certificate of competency in sailing on fishing vessels, the applicant shall:

- 1) be a Danish citizen
- 2) have passed the test in competency in sailing, and either:
 - a) have passed the basic training module for ship's assistant and have completed 3 months seagoing service, or
 - b) have completed 12 months seagoing service.

Subsection 2. 6 months of the mentioned seagoing service prescribed in subsection 1, No. 2, paragraph b might have been completed on seagoing merchant ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above.

Subsection 3. If the exam in competency in sailing is passed before 1 January 2015, a specific course established by the Ministry of Education, Research and Culture is required, before the requirement in subsection 1, No. 2 is fulfilled.

Mate 4th class on fishing vessels – STCW-F Reg. II/4

Section 20. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as mate 4th class on fishing vessels, the applicant shall have passed the master (home trade) exam and either:

- 1) have passed the basic training module for ship's assistant and either have completed 12 months seagoing service, or
- 2) have completed 24 months seagoing service.

Subsection 2. 12 months of the mentioned seagoing service prescribed in section 1, No. 2, might have been completed on seagoing merchant ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above.

Skipper (home trade) on fishing vessels – STCW-F Reg. II/3

Section 21. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as skipper (home trade) on fishing vessels, the applicant shall:

- 1) hold a valid certificate of competency as mate 4th class on fishing vessels,
- 2) be a Danish citizen, and
- 3) have completed 12 months seagoing service under conditions where a certificate of competency as mate 4th on fishing vessels or a certificate of competency in sailing on fishing vessels, is prescribed.

Subsection 2. 6 months of the approved sea going service prescribed in subsection 1, No. 3, may be completed on seagoing merchant ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above.

Mate 3rd class on fishing vessels – STCW-F Reg. II/2

Section 22. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as mate 3rd class on fishing vessels, the applicant shall have passed the master exam and either:

- 1) have passed the basic training module for ship's assistant and have completed 12 months seagoing service, or
- 2) have completed 24 months seagoing service.

Subsection 2. 12 months of the mentioned seagoing service prescribed in subsection 1, No. 2 might have been completed on seagoing merchant ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above.

Skipper on fishing vessels – STCW-F Reg. II/I

Section 23. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as skipper on fishing vessels, the applicant shall:

- 1) hold a valid certificate of competency as mate 3rd class on fishing vessels,
- 2) be a Danish citizen and

- 3) have completed 12 months seagoing service under conditions where a certificate of competency as mate 3rd or 4th class on fishing vessels, is prescribed.

Chapter 3

Certificate of competency as engineer officer on merchant ships and fishing vessels

Section 24. In addition to the requirements for acquiring certificates of competency stated under the individual certificates, the applicant concerned shall:

- 1) be of age and not subject to guardianship according to section 5 of the Guardianship Act or to special guardianship according to section 7 of the Guardianship Act and
- 2) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder,
- 3) no more than 5 years prior to the issuance of the certificate of competency, have passed the examination or test required for obtaining the relevant certificate of competency, and
- 4) if not otherwise stated, have completed the prescribed engine duty on seagoing fishing vessels or merchant ships with a propulsion power of 750 kW or above.

Certificates of competency in motor operation

Section 25. In order to acquire a certificate of competency in motor operation, the applicant shall:

- 1) have passed the competency test in motor operation or hold an education in engine operation, and
- 2) have completed 6 months seagoing deck service or engine duty on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 100 kW or above.

Watchkeeping engineer officer – STCW Reg. III/I

Section 26. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as a watchkeeping engineer officer, the person concerned shall:

- 1) have passed the mechanist exam or engineer officer exam,
- 2) have completed 12 months engine duty including an approved training record book.

Subsection 2. 6 months of the mentioned engine duty prescribed in subsection 1, No. 2, can be completed in employment ashore.

Mechanist 2nd class – STCW Reg. III/3

Section 27. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as a mechanist 2nd class, the person concerned shall:

- 1) have passed the mechanist exam,

- 2) have completed 18 months engine duty, and either hold:
 - a) a certificate of competency as watchkeeping engineer officer, or
 - b) an approved training record book.

Subsection 2. 6 months of the mentioned engine duty prescribed in subsection 1, No. 2, can be completed in employment ashore.

Mechanist 1st class – STCW Reg. III/3

Section 28. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as a mechanist, 1st class, the person concerned shall:

- 1) hold a valid certificate of competency as mechanist 2nd class, and
- 2) have completed either 24 months engine duty, 12 months of which in service under conditions where a certificate of competency as mechanist 2nd class, is prescribed or have completed 36 months engine duty where a certificate of competency as watchkeeping engineer officer, is prescribed.

Engineer officer 1st class – STCW Reg. III/2

Section 29. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as an engineer officer 1st class, the person concerned shall:

- 1) have passed the engineer officer exam,
- 2) hold a valid certificate of competency as watchkeeping engineer officer, and
- 3) have completed 12 months service under conditions where a certificate of competency as watchkeeping engineer officer is prescribed.

Chief engineer officer – STCW Reg. III/2

Section 30. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as chief engineer officer, the person concerned shall:

- 1) hold a valid certificate of competency as engineer officer 1st class, and then
- 2) have completed 12 months service where a certificate of competency as Engineer officer 1st class is prescribed, or
- 3) have completed 24 months service where a certificate of competency as watchkeeping engineer officer, is prescribed.

Subsection 2. 12 months of the mentioned seagoing service prescribed in subsection 1, shall have been completed on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of at least 3000 kW.

Section 31. The Faroese Maritime Authority may permit that engine duty on vessels which are not merchant ships or fishing vessels may be partly included in the prescribed engine duty.

Section 32. Certificates of competency issued pursuant to sections 25-30 shall entitle the holder to serve on motor ships.

Section 33. Certificates of competency issued on the basis of an engineer officer exam may be endorsed to also entitle the holder to serve on steam ships when the person concerned has completed at least 3 months engine duty in steam ships.

Chapter 4

On certificate of proficiency and certificates of competency as ships electro-technical officer on merchant ships and fishing vessels

Certificate of proficiency as ships electro-technical rating - STCW Reg. 111/7

Section 34. In order to acquire a certificate of proficiency as ships electro-technical rating the applicant shall:

- 1) be of age and not subject to guardianship according to section 5 of the Guardianship Act or to special guardianship according to section 7 of the Guardianship Act and
- 2) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of proficiency entitles the holder,
- 3) hold a course in accordance with the STCW Convention Reg. III/7, and
- 4) have completed 3 months seagoing service on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 750 kW or above. The seagoing service shall contain service within the electrician profession.

Subsection 2. ¹⁾(Repealed).

Certificate of competency as ships electro-technical officer - STCW Reg. 111/6

Section 35. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as ships electro-technical officer the applicant shall:

- 1) be of age, and not subject to guardianship according to section 5 of the Guardianship Act or to special guardianship according to section 7 of the Guardianship Act and
- 2) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder,
- 3) hold a course in accordance with the STCW Convention Reg. III/6, and
- 4) hold a vocational education and training with a certificate of apprenticeship specialized in electrician and
- 5) have completed 30 months engine duty on seagoing ships with a power of 750 kW or above.

Subsection 2. ¹⁾ (Repealed).

Chapter 5

On qualification requirements and certificates of proficiency on tankers

On service on board tankers

Section 36. Officers and able manning on tankers shall have passed the approved course in fire-fighting and the basic training course on tankers, STCW Convention Reg. A-V /1-1.1, and A-V/1-2.1, on Tanker Basic Course.

Subsection 2. The provision in subsection 1 does also apply to other seafarers with special tasks and responsibilities in connection with loading operations and cargo-treatment equipment on tankers.

Subsection 3. Masters, chief mates, chief engineer officers, second engineer officers and any other person who, while in service on oil, chemical and gas tankers, are directly responsible for the loading, unloading and control with the cargo shall, in addition to meeting the requirements of subsection 1, hold a certificate in advanced training of operations on tankers, for the type of tanker on which service is performed. The certificate shall be issued by the Faroese Maritime Authority in accordance with STCW Reg. V/1-1.1, and A-V/1-2.1.

Subsection 4. Instead of the certificate mentioned in subsection 1, the Faroese Maritime Authority may permit that able manning on board ships registered in the Faroese International Register of Shipping hold foreign certificates in accordance with STCW Reg. V/1-1.1, and A-V/1-2.1.

Subsection 5. Instead of the Tanker Basic Course mentioned in subsection 1, the Faroese Maritime Authority may permit that manning who not are officers on board ships registered in the Faroese International Register of Shipping, have acquired foreign certificates drawn up in accordance with STCW Reg. V/1-1.1, and A-V/1-2.1.

On certificates of proficiency on tankers

Section 37. In order to acquire a certificate in advanced training for oil tanker cargo operations, a certificate in advanced training for chemical tanker cargo operations or a certificate in advanced training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations, the applicant shall:

- 1) hold a valid certificate of competency as deck officer or engineer officer,
- 2) have passed an approved special course for the type of tanker for which the certificate is valid within 5 years prior to the date of issue of the certificate of competency, and either:
 - a) have completed 3 months service as an officer on board the type of tanker for which the certificate is valid, although service on board on chemical tankers also may be included as service on board oil tankers, or

b) have completed 1 month service on board the type of tanker for which the certificate is valid, as a supernumerary officer and, during the service, document at least three loading operations and three unloading operations.

Chapter 6

On other certificates of competency and certificates of proficiency

Watchkeeping certificate - bridge watch duty STCW Reg. II/4

Section 38. In order to acquire a watchkeeping certificate for bridge watch duty, the applicant shall be 16 years of age and shall hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder, including be fit for lookout duty, and either:

- 1) have passed the basic training module for ship's assistants, the ship's assistant training programme for persons holding a certificate of apprenticeship specialized in metal, electricity or other relevant vocational education and training or have completed the basic training module for maritime practical training, and have completed 2 months seagoing deck service on seagoing ships of gross tonnage of 20 or above, and in this period, under the supervision of the watchkeeping deck officer, is instructed according to the provisions stipulated in executive order on watchkeeping on ships, or
- 2) have completed 6 months seagoing deck service duty on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above, and in this period, under the supervision of the watchkeeping deck officer, is instructed according to the provisions stipulated in executive order on watchkeeping on ships.

Watchkeeping certificate – engine duty STCW Reg. III/4

Section 39. In order to acquire a watchkeeping certificate for engine duty, the applicant shall be 16 years of age and shall hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder, and either:

- 1) have passed the basic training module for ship's assistants, and have completed 2 months engine duty on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 750 kW or above, and in this period, under the supervision of the watchkeeping engineer officer, is instructed according to the provisions stipulated in executive order on watchkeeping on ships, or
- 2) have completed 6 months engine duty on seagoing ships with a propulsion power of 750 kW or above and in this period, under the supervision of the watchkeeping engineer officer, is instructed according to the provisions stipulated in executive order on watchkeeping on ships.

Certificate of competency as radio operator

Section 40. In order to acquire a certificate of competency as radio operator the applicant shall:

- 1) be of age and not subject to guardianship according to section 5 of the Guardianship Act or to special guardianship according to section 7 of the Guardianship Act and
- 2) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder, and either hold:
 - a) a limited certificate as a radio operator in GMDSS, ROC in accordance with STCW Reg. IV/2, or
 - b) have passed the test for radio operators in GMDSS, GOC, in accordance with the STCW Convention Reg. IV/2, within 5 years prior to the date of issue of the certificate of competency.

Certificate of competency as a ship's cook

Section 41. ¹⁾ In order to acquire a certificate of competency as a ship's cook the applicant shall be:

- 1) 18 years of age,
- 2) hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for ship service, and
- 3) either have passed training as a cook's assistant or nutrition assistant.

Subsection 2. ^{2) 1)} In order to acquire a certificate of competency as a ship's cook on fishing vessels engaged on domestic voyages, the applicant shall be 18 years of age, and shall at least have completed certificate training programme pursuant to section 1 in Executive Order on the hygienic competences of seafarers handling of articles of food on board ships. A ship's cook who holds a certificate of competency pursuant to clause 1 may, with permission from the Faroese Maritime Authority, sign on a vessel which is usually engaged on domestic voyages, when the vessel, in special cases, is engaged in commercial fishing outside Faroese territorial waters.

Subsection 3. ²⁾¹⁾ Seafarers who have acquired a certificate of competency as a ship's cook issued before this executive order enters into force retain their validity.

Chapter 7

Basic safety training and – instruction for all seafarers

Merchant ships

Section 42. Before being assigned to any shipboard duties on board merchant ships, the master shall ensure that all employed seafarers on board, receive training in personal survival techniques and receive appropriate information and instructions in accordance with the STCW Convention Reg. VI/I and A-VI/I section 1 on "Familiarization Training" in such a way that the seafarers are able to:

- 1) communicate with other seafarers on board on basic safety matters and understand safety symbols, signs and alarm signals and
- 2) know what to do if:
 - a) a person falls overboard,
 - b) if smoke or fire is detected or
 - c) if the fire alarm or abandon-ship alarm sounds,
- 3) can identify stations for muster and embarkation, emergency-escape routes,
- 4) can locate and don life-jackets,
- 5) can raise the alarm, knows the use of portable fire extinguishers,
- 6) can take immediate action upon encountering an accident or other medical emergency before seeking further medical assistance on board,
- 7) can close and open fire doors, weather-tight doors and watertight doors fitted in the vessel other than those for hull openings, and
- 8) handle waste on board the vessel in order to avoid environmental pollution.

Section 43. Seafarers on merchant ships who in accordance with the Minimum Safe Manning Document are required for duty on board, besides other seafarers who have special tasks in connection with safety and prevention of the environment, shall have passed an approved basic safety training course for seafarers in accordance with the STCW Convention Reg. VI/I and A-VI/I, section 2 on “Basic Training”.

Subsection 2. Foreign basic safety training courses meet the requirements in subsection 1, if the certificate is issued by an approved authority in a country that complies with the regulations of the STCW Convention.

Subsection 3. After 31 December 2016, all officers shall hold an advanced fire fighting certificate according to STCW Reg. VI/3.

Fishing vessels

Section 44. Persons who sign on fishing vessels shall hold a valid basic safety training course for seafarers- in accordance with the STCW Convention Reg. VI/I and A-VI/I, section 2 “Basic Training”. Foreign basic safety training courses meet the requirements in sentence 1, if the certificate is issued by an approved authority in a country that complies with the regulations of the STCW Convention.

Subsection 2. On fishing vessels where self-contained breathing apparatus is not a requirement, seafarers may be exempted from the requirement on smoke diving according to the STCW Convention Reg. A-VI/1-2. Moreover, seafarers who not are obliged to smoke dive according to the muster list, may be exempted from the requirement on smoke diving according to the STCW Convention Reg. A-VI/1-2.

Revalidation of the basic safety training courses and the advanced fire fighting courses

Section 45. The certificate on passed basic safety training course according to the STCW Convention Reg. VI/I and A-VI/I, paragraph 2 on Basic Training subsection 1s shall be revalidated every fifth year.

Section 46. The certificate on passed advanced fire fighting course according to STCW Reg. VI/3 shall be revalidated every fifth year.

Certificate of proficiency in using safety equipment

Survival crafts and rescue boats

Section 47. In order to acquire a certificate of proficiency in using survival crafts and rescue boats, except for fast rescue boats, the applicant:

- 1) shall be of age, and not subject to guardianship according to section 5 of the Guardianship Act or to special guardianship according to section 7 of the Guardianship Act and
- 2) shall hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder,
- 3) shall no more than 5 years prior to the date of issue of the certificate of proficiency have passed an approved course in survival crafts and rescue boats, except for fast rescue boats, according to STCW Reg. VI/2, paragraph 1, and shall
- 4) have completed 6 months seagoing service on seagoing ships with a gross tonnage of 20 or above.

Fast rescue boats

Section 48. In order to acquire a certificate of proficiency in fast rescue boats, the applicant:

- 1) shall be of age, and not subject to guardianship according to section 5 of the Guardianship Act or to special guardianship according to section 7 of the Guardianship Act and
- 2) shall hold a health certificate for seafarers valid for the service for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder,
- 3) shall hold a certificate of proficiency in using survival crafts and rescue boats in accordance with section 47 and shall
- 4) no more than 5 years prior to the date of issue of the certificate of proficiency, have passed an approved course with a satisfactory result in fast rescue boats, according to STCW Reg. VI/2, paragraph 2.

Chapter 8

General provisions

Responsibilities of the shipowner and the master

Section 49. The shipowner and the master shall ensure that the seafarers serving on board meet all the training, qualification and certificate of competency requirements prescribed for the position concerned and that the prescribed original certificates are available on board.

On seagoing service for acquiring certificates of competency

Section 50. Seagoing service means service on board vessels which give seafarers the relevant knowledge, insight and competency or maintenance of competencies for acquiring a certificate of competency.

Subsection 2. The seagoing service will be documented with a copy of the discharge book. Under certain circumstances, the Faroese Maritime Authority may permit that the shipowner in question confirms the seagoing service in writing.

Subsection 3. The Faroese Maritime Authority may equate other practical experiences with completed seagoing service, if these experiences are considered to be of relevance for the seagoing service required. Other practical experiences shall be confirmed in writing from the employer.

Subsection 4. When this executive order requires seagoing service to be completed, the seagoing service shall have been legally acquired. This means that the applicant has acquired the seagoing service by holding a valid certificate of competency, the basic safety training course, health certificate for seafarers etc. required for the position for which the applicant has signed on.

Subsection 5. When this executive order requires seagoing service to be completed in a position for which a specific certificate of competency is prescribed, seagoing service completed in a corresponding position on foreign or Faroese ships may be included, notwithstanding the name of the prescribed certificate of competency.

Subsection 6. Seagoing service on vessels without main propulsion machinery may only be included when the certificate of competency is to be revalidated.

Issue of certificates of competency and their validity

Section 51. The Faroese Maritime Authority issues certificates of competency, including certificates of proficiency. The certificates are issued in a format authorised by the Faroese Maritime Authority, cf however, subsection 4.

Subsection 2. Certificates of competency and certificates issued in accordance with sections 8-15, sections 19-23, sections 25-30, section 37, section 40, section 47 and section 48 are issued with a validity of 5 years from the date of issue.

Subsection 3. Certificates of competency may be renewed 6 months before the expiry of an existing certificate of competency, at the earliest.

Subsection 4. The Faroese Maritime Authority may authorize other persons or institutions to issue certificates of proficiency according to sections 4-6, section 47 and section 48.

Subsection 5. Deck officers on merchant ships shall comply with the specific educational requirements stipulated in annex 1.

Subsection 6. After 31 December 2016, deck officers and engineer officers on merchant ships shall comply with the specific educational requirements stipulated in annex 2.

Exemptions

Section 52. If the passed exam is older than 5 years when the person concerned applies for his first certificate of competency, the certificate may be issued, on the condition that the person concerned passes tests or completes courses required by the Ministry of education, research and culture, with regard to the year of examination and subsequent employment of the person concerned.

Section 53. The Faroese Maritime Authority may, under special circumstances, allow the issue of a certificate of competency, with limited rights if relevant, notwithstanding that the requirements laid down for acquisition of the certificate of competency concerned have not been fully met. Exemptions from meeting requirements for exams and seagoing service may, however, only be granted if the person concerned has acquired adequate theoretical and practical training in some other manner.

Subsection 2. The Faroese Maritime Authority may, under special circumstances, allow a person to carry out continued service in a position for which a certificate of competency is not required, notwithstanding that the person concerned does not fully meet the requirements laid down for signing on in the position. Such a permit may, however, only be granted if the Faroese Maritime Authority assesses that the safety in its entirety does not deteriorate for that reason. Such a permit may, however, only be granted, if the person concerned documents having acquired the actual competencies and education, required for service in the position.

Subsection 3. The permit according to subsection 1 may on the same condition be granted for certificates of proficiency in accordance with sections 4-6, however, only until 31 December 2016.

Revalidation of certificates of competency – STCW and STCW-F

Section 54. In order to revalidate a certificate of competency and a certificate in advanced training of operations on tankers, the applicant is required to hold a health certificate valid for the service for which the certificate of competency or certificate of proficiency entitles the holder, and either has:

- 1) completed 1-year seagoing service on seagoing ships as deck officer, engineer officer, or radio operator, respectively, during the last 5 years,
- 2) completed 3 months seagoing service on seagoing ships as deck officer, engineer officer, or radio operator, respectively, during the last 6 months,
- 3) carried out work related to the applicant's certificate of competency, and which the Faroese Maritime Authority may approve as being equivalent to the required service mentioned in No. 1,
- 4) passed tests or completed courses required by the Ministry of education, research and culture, with regard to the year of examination, seagoing service and the last signing on of the person concerned, or
- 5) completed 3 months seagoing service on seagoing ships as deck officer or engineer officer, respectively, in a lower ranking position for the last 6 months, if the certificate of competency has expired.

Subsection 2. In addition to the requirements of subsection 1, the applicant shall after 31 December 2016, be able to document to have maintained the competencies in safety according to STCW Reg. VI/I, and A-VI/I, paragraph 1-4 the on Basic Training.

Subsection 3. In order to have a certificate in advanced training of operations on tankers revalidated, the applicant shall have completed 3 months seagoing service during the last 5 years in tankers of the type for which the certificate of competency entitles the holder. However, seagoing service completed on chemical tankers may be included as seagoing service on oil tankers.

Subsection 4. In order to revalidate a certificate of competency as radio operator in GMDSS, GOC, the seagoing service as deck officer is approved as being equivalent to seagoing service as radio operator. The seagoing service shall be completed on vessels with the radio equipment which is required for revalidation of GMDSS, GOC, according to executive order that the Faroese Maritime Authority carries out certain tasks on behalf of the Telecommunications Authority of the Faroe Island (Fjarskiftiseftirlitið).

Penalty

Section 55. The shipowners or master's violation of sections 42 and 49 shall be punishable by a fine.

Subsection 2. Companies and other legal persons shall incur criminal liability under the regulations in chapter 5 of the Faroese Penal Code.

Subsection 3. When determining criminal liability pursuant to subsection 2, persons employed to carry out work on board the ship by others than the shipowner shall also be considered as being associated with the shipowner. If a document of compliance has been issued pursuant to the International Safety Management Code or a certificate has been issued

pursuant to the Maritime Labour Convention to another organisation or person, the master of the vessel as well as the seafarers shall be considered to be associated with the one to whom the document has been issued.

Chapter 9

Entry into force and transitional provisions

Entry into force

Section 56. This executive order comes into force the day after it has been promulgated. However, section 41 comes into force 1 January 2017.

Subsection 2. At the same time as this executive order enters into force, executive order No. 20 of 22 April 2010 on certificates of competency and qualification requirements to manning on ships, is made void. However, section 34 is made void 1 January 2017.

Transitional provisions

Section 57. Certificates of competency and certificates of proficiency issued according to executive order No. 20 of 22 April 2010 on certificates of competency and qualification requirements to manning on ships, shall remain in force in accordance with the date of expiry given on the certificate of competency.

Subsection 2. Seafarers who are subject to section 16 subsection 1, No. 2 and section 17 subsection 1 No. 2 may within 1 January 2017 sign on even if the requirement on the safety basic course has not been met.

Vinnumálaráðið, 5 August 2015

Johan Dahl

Minister of Trade and Industry

/Björgfríð Ludvig

Permanent Secretary

Annex 1

Below table shows which requirements have to be fulfilled in order to acquire a certificate of competency.

Certificate of competency in compliance with the STCW -78 convention (the original convention)	Certificate of competency in compliance with the STCW-78/95 convention entered into
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			force 1 February 2002	
Title	Exam	STCW - endorsement	Capacity and limitations according to STCW - endorsement	Requirements to education for revalidation
Master	Master exam passed before 1991	II/I, II/2	Master, ships of less than 3000 GT, Officer in charge of a navigational watch	Radar simulator course, ARPA simulator course or certificate of competency limited to ships without ARPA. Course in dangerous goods
Master	Master exam passed before 1984	II/2	Master	ARPA simulator course or certificate of competency limited to ships without ARPA.

Annex 2

Below table shows which requirements have to be fulfilled in order to acquire a certificate of competency after 31 December 2016

Certificate of competency in compliance with the STCW- 78/2010 convention- entering into force 1 January 2017				
Title	Exam	STCW- endorsement	Capacity and limitations according to STCW - endorsement	Requirements to education for revalidation
Master(Home trade)	Master (Home trade) exam	II/3	Master (Home trade) ships of less than 500 GT	Course in ECDIS
Master	Master exam passed before 2006	II/2, II/I	Master, ships of less than 3000 GT, Officer in	Course in ECDIS and BRM
	Master exam			Course in BRM

	passed before 2015		charge of a navigational watch	
Master	Master exam passed before 2006	II/2	Master	Course in ECDIS
Mechanist	Mechanist exam passed before 2015	III/3, III/I	Chief Engineer, ships of less than 3000 kW, Officer in charge of an engineering watch	Course in ERM

¹⁾ Amended in Executive Order No. 115 of 27 June 2025

²⁾ Amended in Executive Order No. 133 of 21 September 2017