



Marine Order 71 – Certificate of Competency Master <24 m FG

The following provides a summary of the requirements for a Master <24 metres Foreign Going Certificate of Competency. This certificate is issued under Marine Order 70 (Seafarer certification) 2014 and Marine Order 71 (Master and deck officers) 2014, made under the *Navigation Act 2012*

What will I be able to do with this certificate? You will be able to perform the duties of:

✓	Master, Chief Mate or Watchkeeper Deck Officer on ships <24 Metres in any operating area, and
✓	Watchkeeper Deck Officer on ships <500 GT in near-coastal waters
✓	Able Seafarer Deck – deck duties or functions

How do I get this certificate?

To obtain a **Master <24 metres FG Certificate of Competency**, you will need to:

- complete 24 months sea service as an officer in charge of a navigation watch on vessels ≥ 12 metres on voyages of at least 24 hours duration, outside sheltered waters while holding an unrestricted Master <24m NC Certificate of Competency (issued under NSCV Part D) or what AMSA considers equivalent to this.
- complete an AMSA approved course of study from an AMSA approved seafarer training organisation for a **Master <24 metres FG**.
- complete the following approved STCW short courses:
 - basic Safety Training course, which includes Security Awareness Training, and
 - medical Care on board ships
- hold the following valid certificates:
 - GMDSS Radio Operators Certificate, and
 - AMSA Certificate of Medical Fitness
- hold an ECDIS endorsement, if serving on ECDIS equipped ships.
- pass an AMSA oral examination.

How do I keep this certificate?

To revalidate your certificate you must:

- hold a valid:
 - AMSA Certificate of Medical Fitness; and
 - GMDSS Radio Operators Certificate or GMDSS Certificate of Recognition
- have seagoing service performing functions appropriate to the certificate you hold, for a period of at least:
 - a) 12 months in total during the preceding 5 years before application; or
 - b) 3 months in total during the preceding 6 months prior to revalidating; or
 - c) have completed an approved revalidation course appropriate for your certificate within 5 years before applying to revalidate; or
 - d) have completed an oral exam and approved short courses that AMSA considers equivalent; or
 - e) have performed duties and functions and approved courses that AMSA considers equivalent

On completion of the seagoing service, you should:

- obtain a letter(s) from your employer(s) confirming sea service and stating that you have actively participated in the mandatory abandon ship and fire drills required by SOLAS as well as scheduled drills required by the on board Safety Management System (see sample template letter). A copy of the letter should be submitted with the application (you should keep the original); and

- provide written evidence of performing radio service in a seagoing ship fully fitted with GMDSS equipment for sea area A3 of at least 12 months in total within the preceding 5 years, or 3 months in total during the preceding 6 months prior to revalidation. This should be written on company letterhead paper and includes the following details:
 - ship particulars – the name, IMO number, MMSI number, ship type(s), Gross Tonnage;
 - the rank served on board;
 - the dates served on board the ship;
 - that the ship was fitted with a full GMDSS station (sea area A3); and
 - that the applicant operated the equipment on a regular basis;
- or have performed functions relating to the category of GMDSS Certificate held which are considered by AMSA to be at least equivalent to the seagoing service required.
- complete continued competence training for the STCW short courses in Fire Fighting and Fire Prevention (Basic Fire Fighting) and Personal Survival Techniques in the previous 5 years (refer to MO 71 Schedule 4).

If you **DO NOT HAVE** at least the specified seagoing service mentioned above, you will be required to complete the Fire Fighting and Fire Prevention (Basic Fire Fighting) and Personal Survival Techniques in full and one of the revalidation options c, d or e shown.

How to Apply for Certificate of Competency Initial Issue/Revalidation (select as required)

Lodge an application at Australia Post:

- complete a Certificate of competency application form 419 online or download a pdf version and then complete it, or
- complete all sections of the form
- download a pdf version of the form to generate your barcode
- print the form
- attach copies of all required documents
- sign the declaration
- submit your application and pay a fee at an AMSA-contracted Australia Post outlet
- provide proof of identity when you lodge your application

AMSA may request reasonable evidence to confirm or verify any of the information provided as part of the application.

Please note:

- All certificates and training must comply with STCW;
- All training courses and training programs must be approved by AMSA; and
- All sea service must be documented qualifying sea service.

Commonwealth statutory declaration

A Commonwealth provided template can be used to make a declaration under the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959*. The original statutory declaration must be posted to AMSA – SCS, GPO BOX 2181, Canberra ACT 2601.

The completed statutory declaration form tells us that you are sending us true copies of the originals or is a written statement which you sign and declare to be true before an authorised witness.

For a copy of this template and full list of persons authorised to witness statutory declarations under the Commonwealth Statutory Declarations Act (1959), see Statutory Declarations Regulations 1992, Schedule 2, a copy of which is available on our website or at the following link: www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2006C00248

More Information

Seafarer Certification Guidance containing additional information on CoC, sea service requirements and task books, can be obtained from the AMSA website at www.amsa.gov.au.

Note: If there is an inconsistency between this document and previously issued documents about the subject matter, this document supersedes information found in previous documents dealing with these matters.

Previous documents found to be in conflict with this document (or parts thereof) will be updated or withdrawn at the earliest opportunity.