

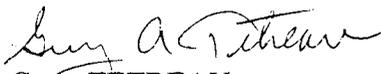


16721
15 October 1998

From: Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District
To: Distribution

Subj: CLARIFICATION OF EXPERIENCE ABOARD DREDGES

1. I recently requested the National Maritime Center clarify the experience requirements for license upgrades, above second mate, for mariners serving onboard commercial dredges. The NMC response is attached as enclosure (1) and is forwarded for your information. Note that the enclosure to enclosure (1) is a **draft** revision to the Marine Safety Manual, Vol. III. In draft form, information contained therein should not be used as official Coast Guard policy.
2. If you have any questions, please contact LCDR Kristin Williams at (504) 589-6260.


G. A. TETREAU
By direction

Encl: (1) NMC-4C ltr 16721 of 10 Sep 98

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U.S. Department
of Transportation

**United States
Coast Guard**



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16721

SEP 10 1998

From: Commanding Officer, National Maritime Center (NMC-4C)
To: Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District (m)

Subj: CLARIFICATION OF EXPERIENCE ABOARD DREDGES

Ref: (a) CCDG 8 Ltr 16721, dtd 31Jul98
(b) Marine Safety Manual, COMDTINST M16000.8B, Para 9.B.4
(c) Marine Safety Manual, COMDTINST M16000.8B, Para's 2.C & 2.D

1. This is in response to reference (a).
2. Reference (b) permits inland service to be substituted for up to half of the required service for upgrade of an ocean or near coastal license at a two-for-one basis. However, reference (c) makes special provisions for the crediting of service onboard dredges. A significant disparity exists between the crediting of service on commercial dredges and the crediting of service on U. S. Army Corps of Engineer's (CoE) dredges, specifically above the second mate level.
3. The Marine Safety Manual, Vol III, is currently under revision. Once published, service onboard dredges, commercial or CoE, will be treated equally. Inland service will be credited for license upgrade as per reference (b).
4. If you would like to discuss this issue further, the point of contact at NMC is LCDR Dave Dolloff, (703 235-1301 or ddolloff@ballston.uscg.mil).

W C Bennett
W. C. BENNETT

By direction

Encl: (1) Draft revision, reference (c).

DRAFT

i. Credit For Military Schools.

Unless the school is NMC approved, training received at a military school will not be granted sea service credit nor be accepted as meeting mandatory training requirements (e.g. radar observer, firefighting).

C. Experience Aboard Dredges.

Dredges often conduct the majority of their operations upon inland waters. Service on board dredges should be carefully evaluated to ensure appropriate ocean or near coastal service. Daily operations that include voyages beyond the boundary lines for the disposal or mining of dredge material shall be credited as ocean service.

D. Evaluating Coast Guard Personnel For Licenses.

Coast Guard marine safety experience does not equate to shipboard service and may not be used to qualify for an original or raise of grade of a license. Such experience is generally helpful in preparing for a license examination; however, the only military service creditable towards eligibility for a license is underway service (except as discussed in paragraph 2.B.4.h. above). Coast Guard personnel who apply for a license shall comply with all the regulations for the license. Officers senior to the OCMI, shall request permission from the district commander to apply for a license. In granting such requests, the district commander may require the applicant to comply with certain additional conditions. Some of these conditions may include submitting applications and taking examinations at a Regional Examination Center (REC) in another district.

E. Examining Coast Guard Marine Safety Personnel For Licenses.

To prevent criticism or charges of Coast Guard favoritism in the licensing process, Coast Guard marine safety personnel must obtain permission to apply for a license from their district commander. The district commander may apply the restrictions listed above. However, under the present examination system, a separate randomly produced examination can allow the applicant to sit at the local REC. The applicant's file shall contain the letter of request and the district commander's letter of approval. Headquarters personnel should apply to the district commander in whose jurisdiction the REC resides. Refer to paragraph A.2. of this chapter for instances when applications must be sent to Commandant to be evaluated. Coast Guard personnel who have passed a rules of the road test as an end of course test or as a Deck Watch Officer examination will not be exempted from taking the rules of the road portion of any Coast Guard license examination.

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