

U.S. Department
of Transportation

**United States
Coast Guard**



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National Maritime Center

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A primary mission of the National Maritime Center (NMC) is to improve marine safety while minimizing regulatory burden. We are committed to working with industry to improve seafarers' skills and knowledge, and our ability to certify their competence.

A review of the currently approved Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessels (OUPV) Licenses Courses has shown a significant variance in the length of courses approved in lieu of a U.S. Coast Guard examination. The NMC encourages training institutions to develop innovative methods to improve the delivery of information to their students. However, we believe there is a minimum time needed to achieve the learning objectives necessary to become a safe and competent OUPV. Consequently, the NMC has developed the enclosed guidelines recommending specific minimum hours of instruction and practice for the OUPV topics listed in 46 CFR 10.910. We are proposing this curriculum as the new minimum OUPV Course Guidelines.

The NMC is seeking consensus of the course topics and length. The new guidelines are provided for your examination and comment. The time and effort you dedicate to reviewing this material, and any input you may offer will be appreciated. Comments must be received by 10 April 1998. The final standard will be published by April 17, 1998 unless extensive revisions are required. Until then, we will approve any course which complies with the enclosed guidelines as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. John Bobb at 703-235-8457. You may comment in writing using the above address, via fax to (703) 235-1062 or via e-mail to jbobb@ballston.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

W. C. BENNETT
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Chief, Marine Personnel Division

Copy: All RECs

Encl: (1) OUPV Course guidelines