Welcome to National Maritime Center’s Wizard for Original Application.
This wizard will help guide you through the process of obtaining your new or original credential as a Merchant Mariner.

New Credential falls under Title 46 Sections 10-13 of the Code of Federal Regulations
Select “Continue” if you are applying for your first Merchant Mariner Credential. This means you have never held a license.

If you currently hold a Merchant Mariner Document, then select “Renewal” for the correct information.
If you are a US citizen then select “Continue”, otherwise select “Exceptions” to find out the rules for Non US citizens (10.221 CFR).

You must be a United States citizen in order to obtain a Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC); there are few exceptions to this rule.
Minimum age can be 16 with parental consent

Depending on the endorsement(s) you are applying for, the minimum age can range from 16 (with parental consent) to 21.

Click on “Age Requirements” to see the list.
Do you hold or have you applied for a TWIC?

Transportation Workers Identification Credential

You must currently hold or have applied for a Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC). There are exceptions to this rule. Please read the requirements for TWIC at our website (http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/twic/).
§ 10.225 Requirements for original merchant mariner credentials.

Every person who receives an original MMC must first take an oath before an official authorized to give such an oath, that he or she will faithfully and honestly, according to his or her best skill and judgment, without concealment or reservation, perform all the duties required by law and obey all lawful orders of superior officers. An oath may be administered by any Coast Guard-designated individual or any person legally permitted to administer oaths in the jurisdiction where the person taking the oath resides.
DO NOT send cash – only checks or money orders!

USCG MMC User Fee Payment

Instructions for paying online are on our website. Checks, money orders and credit cards are accepted methods of payment. Checks or money orders must be payable to the U.S. Coast Guard with the social security number printed on the front of the document.

We highly recommended that you use Pay.gov - Credit Card Payment Form in order to pay for your original credential. It is fast, safe, and reliable method of payment.

Title 46 CFR 10.219
Medical Exams are required!

In order to obtain an Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) you must pass a physical exam. Have your Doctor complete CG-719K or CG-719K/E.

Please visit our website for more information (www.uscg.mil/nmc/medical)
Prior to getting your physical you should review the Navigation and Inspection Information Circular (NVIC) 04-08. Your doctor must complete all sections of the 719K or 719K/E form.

NMC Medical Website

Continue
If you have any medical issues, have your doctor address them according to NVIC 04-08.

Incomplete applications, missing signatures, or failure to address these medical issues will cause your application to be delayed, or even rejected.

Please visit our [website](#) for more information.

Did your doctor sign the form and put his/her license number?
Is there any missing data for uncorrected vision (Section III)?
Was your uncorrected vision tested with corrective lenses (Section III)?
Is your pulse rate/rhythm (Section II) filled out?
Are there response in the medication section (Section VI)?
Are you missing field of vision (Section III)?
Is your hearing marked as normal or impaired?
TOP MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Avoiding delays by addressing any and all medical concerns!

1. Cardiovascular Conditions
2. Diabetes
3. Psychiatric Disorders
4. Sleep Disorders
5. Chronic Use of Impairing Medications
6. Impaired Hearing
7. Alcohol/Drug Abuse
8. Seizures
9. Vision Requirements
10. Pulmonary Conditions

Please visit our website for more information regarding medical conditions that can cause delays in processing your application.

www.uscg.mil/nmc/medical

Continue
Have you completed your Drug Test?

You must complete a DOT 5 Panel Drug Test (CG-719P) from a certified lab or be enrolled in an Approved Drug Testing Program.

Please visit our website for more information regarding drug testing and options.

(www.uscg.mil/nmc/drug_testing)

Continue
Finding a “Collection Point” that meets Coast Guard requirements

You must provide the results of your drug test from an approved lab or evidence of being subject to a random drug testing program that meets the requirements of 46 CFR 16.230 with your application.

Only DOT 5 Panel drug test from a certified lab will be accepted (SAMHSA 5 Panel).

Please visit our website for more information!
Documenting your Sea Service is extremely important!

In order to become a U.S. Mariner you must have proof of Sea Service required by 46 CFR 11.213. You must submit your military sea service transcript, discharge certificates, employers letters or self certification with your application.

Sea Service requirements are documented in Title 46 section 10.225.
Do you meet the STCW Requirements?

STCW Brochure

You will be subject to STCW requirements, if you will be sailing more than 100 nm off shore or in foreign waters. You should provide copies of all of your course completion certificates with Your application.

Please visit our website for more information!
There are different levels of training required by STCW.

Standards for Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping (IMO)

Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations
Do you have your 3 letters of references?

If you are applying for an Officer Endorsement(s) you are required to submit three letters of recommendation in accordance with 46 CFR 11.205.
For an example of reference letters please select “Sample.”

Your recommendation letter should reflect your suitability to perform your duties in accordance with 46 CFR 11.205. Submitting your application without references will delay your credentials.
To avoid delays make sure you have included everything!

Here you will find a list of items that will help you complete your application.

All new applications must be submitted through your local REC.

- REC Locations
- Application Check List
- Endorsement Check List
- STCW
- Medical Forms
- Forms (CG 719)
- Drug Testing
- User Fees
- Policy Letters
- Credentials
- FAQ's
- TWIC

Continue
Congratulations – you are ready to start the application process!

Best resource is our website at [www.uscg.mil/nmc](http://www.uscg.mil/nmc). Here you will find information regarding all phases of the Merchant Mariner Credential program.

Help is always just a [click away](http://www.uscg.mil/nmc)!