Increasing Horsepower

46 CFR 11.503 Horsepower limitations.
“(c) The following service on vessels of 4,000 horsepower or over will be considered qualifying for the raising or removing of horsepower limitations placed on an engineer license or merchant mariner credential (MMC) endorsement:

(1) Six months of service in the highest-grade endorsed: removal of all horsepower limitations.

(2) Six months of service as an officer in any capacity other than the highest grade for which licensed or endorsed: Removal of all horsepower limitations for the grade in which service is performed and raise the next higher grade endorsement to the horsepower of the vessel on which service was performed. The total cumulative service before and after issuance of the limited license or MMC endorsement may be considered in removing all horsepower limitations.

(3) Twelve months of service as oiler or junior engineer while holding a license or MMC endorsement as third assistant engineer or assistant engineer (limited oceans): removal of all horsepower limitations on third assistant engineer or assistant engineer's (limited oceans) endorsement.

(4) Six months of service as oiler or junior engineer while holding a license or MMC endorsement as second assistant engineer: removal of all horsepower limitations on third assistant engineer's endorsement.

(d) Raising or removing horsepower limitations based on service required by paragraph (c) of this section may be granted without further written examination providing the Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection (OCMI) who issued the applicant's license or MMC endorsement, considers further examination unnecessary.”
### Examples of Qualifying Service to Remove Horsepower (HP) Limitations:

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| Six months of service on vessels of 4,000 HP or more in the highest-grade endorsed | Removal of all horsepower limitations | • Mariner holds 3rd Assistant Engineer (A/E) Steam and Motor 6000 HP.  
• Provides: Minimum of 6 months of service as 3rd A/E on a vessel of at least 4000 HP but not more than 6000 HP  
• In this example, “highest grade” means service in the capacity of 3rd A/E.  
• Service has to be at least 4,000 HP to meet requirements, but can’t be over 6,000 HP because that would be beyond the scope of this mariner’s current endorsement.  
• Mariner qualifies for 3rd A/E Steam and Motor Any Horsepower (AHP). |
| Six months of service on vessels of 4,000 HP or more as an officer in any capacity other than the highest grade for which licensed or endorsed | Removal of all horsepower limitations for the grade in which service is performed and raise the next higher grade endorsement to the horsepower of the vessel on which service was performed.  
***The total cumulative service before and after issuance of the limited license or MMC endorsement may be considered in removing all horsepower limitations.*** | • Mariner holds 1st A/E Motor 4000 HP AND 2nd A/E Motor 6000 HP  
• Provides 6 months service as 2nd A/E on a vessel of 5000HP (2nd AE would be the officer capacity “other than the highest grade”)  
• Mariner qualifies 2nd A/E Motor AHP AND 1st A/E Motor Not More Than 5000 HP  
• The service removed all HP limitations for the lower officer endorsement and raised the limitation on the higher officer to the HP of the vessel on which the service was gained. |
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| Twelve months of service as oiler or junior engineer while holding a license or MMC endorsement as third assistant engineer or assistant engineer (limited oceans) | Removal of all horsepower limitation on third assistant engineer’s (limited oceans) endorsement | • Mariner holds A/E Motor, Limited Oceans (OC) Not More Than 7000 HP  
• Provides twelve months service in the capacity of oiler on a vessel of 6000 HP while holding A/E Limited OC  
• Mariner qualifies for A/E Motor, Limited OC AHP                                                                                                                                 |
| Six months of service as oiler or junior engineer while holding a license or MMC endorsement as 2nd A/E | Removal of all horsepower limitations on 3rd AE endorsement. | • Mariner holds 3rd A/E Steam and Motor 7000 HP AND 2nd A/E Motor 4000 HP  
• Provides six months service as Jr Engineer on a vessel of 4000 HP or more while holding an officer capacity of 3rd and 2nd A/E  
• Mariner qualifies as 3rd A/E Steam and Motor AHP, and 2nd A/E Motor Not More Than 4000 HP  
(d) Raising or removing horsepower limitations based on service required by paragraph (c) of this section may be granted without further written examination  
• Mariner has already tested for the officer capacity and propulsion when receiving the limited HP – NO further testing required to remove HP limitation |