

DISCUSSION OF QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ABLE SEAFARER-ENGINE

1. GENERAL. This enclosure provides guidance to qualify for and renew an International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (STCW) endorsement as Able Seafarer-Engine (AS-E), as specified in 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 12.607.
2. SEA SERVICE AND TRAINING.
 - a. As specified in 46 CFR 12.607(a), to qualify for an AS-E endorsement a mariner must:
 - 1) Meet the requirements for an endorsement as a Rating Forming Part of an Engineering (RFPEW). It is not necessary to hold the endorsement for RFPEW, but all training, sea service and/or assessments required for RFPEW must be completed before accruing the sea service for AS-E;
 - 2) While qualified as RFPEW have either 12 months of seagoing service in the engine department, or 6 months of seagoing service in the engine department with completed approved training;
 - 3) Meet the standard of competence specified in Table A-III/5 of the STCW Code. Mariners may demonstrate achieving the standards of competence by completing the assessments in Enclosure (2), or an approved equivalent alternative; and
 - 4) Have currently valid Basic Training (46 CFR 12.602).
 - b. As specified in 46 CFR 12.607(c), mariners holding a rating endorsement as QMED junior engineer, electrician or electrician/refrigerating engineer, pumpman or pumpman/machinist, refrigerating engineer, or machinistn before January 1, 2017, will be eligible for this endorsement if they:
 - 1) Hold an endorsement as RFPEW; and
 - 2) Have currently valid Basic Training (46 CFR 12.602).
 - c. Mariners may qualify for an endorsement as AS-E until January 1, 2017, if they have:
 - 1) Served as a watchstanding Qualified Member of the Engine Department
 - 2) (QMED) Junior Engineer, Oiler, Fireman/Watertender, Deck-Engine Mechanic, or Engineman, or as an RFPEW for a period of not less than 12 months within the 60 months prior to application for the endorsement (46 CFR 12.603(b); and
 - 3) Currently valid Basic Training (46 CFR 12.602).
 - d. Mariners who qualify for AS-E under paragraph 2.c above also qualify for an endorsement as RFPEW without limitation to specific propulsion modes or vessel equipment.

- e. For qualification as an AS-E, a day of approved seagoing service is 8 hours performing duties relevant to AS-E. As an alternative to 8 hours in 1 day, 2 periods of at least 4 hours each may be combined to equal 1 day. When 2 such periods are combined to form a day of creditable service, no additional credit will be given for periods in excess of 8 hours (46 CFR 10.107).

3. ASSESSMENT.

- a. All seagoing assessments should be performed on a vessel of at least 750 kW/1,000 HP with a manned or periodically unmanned walk-in engine room, generators independent of the main engine and other independent auxiliaries. Because many vessels no longer have manned engine rooms, engine room maintenance with designated engine room operational experience may be substituted for watch keeping experience.
- b. Shipboard Qualified Assessors may only make minor changes to the assessments in Enclosure (2) to reflect differences in shipboard equipment and operating procedures unless approval is given by the National Maritime Center (46 CFR 12.601(a)(1)(i)).

4. RENEWAL OF ENDORSEMENT. In order to renew an endorsement as AS-E, an applicant must have currently valid Basic Training as set forth in 46 CFR 12.602 and meet the general requirements for renewal of their national QMED endorsement(s) found in 46 CFR 10.227.