

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



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## Important Information for Mariners about posting of the New Merchant Mariner Credential on-board a vessel.

The Coast Guard recently released the new Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC), a passport style document that replaces legacy licenses and documents. The current statute in 46 USC 7110 requires that the license be displayed in a conspicuous place on the vessel on which he/she is serving has not been changed by this new style credential. Those mariners previously required to post a legacy license should now post their MMC in accordance with the guidance below.

Mariners holding an MMC should display the officer endorsement page of the MMC, which is equivalent to the previous officer license. The term "officer endorsement" is defined in 46 CFR 10.107, which directly links to the list of officer endorsements contained in 46 CFR 10.109(a). MMC holders with officer endorsements under 46 CFR 10.109(a) (1) through (a)(43) should display the officer endorsement page of the MMC.

This instruction is consistent with the information in the Consolidation of Merchant Mariner Qualification Credential final rule (USCG-2006-24371) section III, paragraph 15, sub-section A, "Comments from the Docket or Public Meetings." It specifically states, "Officer endorsements could be contained on opposing pages and would not contain personal privacy information so that the credential could be opened to that page for posting aboard vessels to satisfy the requirements of 46 USC 7710."

Mariners holding legacy licenses should continue to display their license.

As a security measure, mariners should not post their credentials while the vessel is visiting foreign ports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric P. Christensen".

Eric P. Christensen  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard