

Seafarer Licensing

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS: ABLE SEAMAN (AB) CERTIFICATE

Please note - Calculation of Sea Service:

- A period of sea service is to be reckoned by the calendar month.
- A period of sea service is to be calculated from the date of engagement to the date of discharge from the ship, with both the engagement and discharge days counting as full days.
- Days in excess of a full month may be added together and counted towards sea service with 30 days being considered one month, 360 days is considered one year.

For further information refer to Maritime rule Part 32 Ship's Personnel – Qualifications (32.7), available on the Maritime New Zealand's website www.maritimenz.govt.nz

In addition to completing an approved course of study and passing a Maritime NZ approved exam, to be eligible for the issue of a certificate as an AB, a person must satisfy the following:

1. Are you 18 years of age or older? Yes No
2. Can you provide evidence of 36 months sea service as a deck rating on commercial ships? (12 months in the past ten years). Yes No
3. Provides evidence that 9 months of the sea service is on non-fishing vessels of 100 gross tonnes or more. Yes No
4. Provide evidence of being the holder of a proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats (other than fast rescue boats) certificate that is acceptable to the Director. Yes No
5. Provides evidence that he or she complies with any medical fitness requirements of Part 34 (including eyesight) applicable to this application. Yes No

To be eligible to **sit** the exam you must provide evidence of the following:

- At least one year's sea service as a deck rating including 3 months on non-fishing vessels of 100 gross tonnes or more.
- Hold a steering certificate.
- Completed the syllabus as required.

Candidates from the seaman Branch or Operations Branch of the Royal New Zealand Navy or equivalent in the Navy of another country may be counted by the Director as qualifying sea service, provided that the candidate has 12 months sea service on commercial vessels (non warships) and 9 months sea service on non-fishing vessels over 100 gross tonnes.

Before an AB's certificate can be issued, the following must be presented.

- An application form for a marine qualification correctly completed.
- A Fit and Proper Person Questionnaire and Consent to Disclosure form correctly completed and results obtained.
- Correct evidence of sea service.
- Examination pass form from the examiner.
- Up-to-date medical certificate and eyesight test.
- Proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats (other than fast rescue boats) certificate.
- Steering certificate.
- Testimonial from someone who knows you well, (not a relative) signed and dated and not more than one year old.

Please note that the above must be submitted as one package, if the application is not correct or incomplete it will be returned to the candidate.

If you are uncertain as to whether the nature or duration of your sea service meets Maritime NZ's requirements, you may contact the Maritime NZ Head Office and seek a formal assessment of your sea time by a Maritime NZ examiner. A fee may apply for this assessment.

A formal application must be submitted along with substantiating evidence to determine eligibility for this qualification. Full details can be downloaded at www.maritimenz.govt.nz

**Maritime New Zealand
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DISCLAIMER

This form is intended to be a guide only. Completion of this form does not indicate any entitlement to any certificate or qualification issued under Rule Part 32 Ship's Personnel Qualifications. Actual eligibility for a certificate can only be determined after verification of existing qualifications and extent of sea service.