

16.9 Requirements for pilotage exemption

Requirements for the Issue of Pilotage Exemption for the Ports of Gladstone, Bundaberg and Port Alma

The following are the requirements for the issue of the above licences:

- The applicant must have completed six voyages as Master within the last 12 months
- The applicant must have completed two voyages at night (included in the above six voyages)

NOTE: A VOYAGE IS ONE TRIP IN AND ONE TRIP OUT

- The applicant must complete a written and if considered necessary, an oral examination
- The applicant must hold a current medical and eyesight certificate to Marine Orders Standards
- After completion of the examination the applicant must practically demonstrate his/her ability to handle a vessel in the Pilotage Area (this will be one voyage with a licensed pilot) of which one trip must be in the hours of darkness for a night endorsement.

Exemptions will be granted as follows:

- For bauxite vessels up to a maximum of 256m LOA not West of South Trees Wharf (Gladstone)
- For other vessels up to a maximum of 200m LOA (Gladstone)
- No exemptions will be granted for Clinton Coal Wharf (Gladstone)

Exemptions will be granted for various sizes of vessels as follows:

- over 200m LOA - no exemptions other than for bauxite vessels to South Trees Wharf **ONLY**

The applicant will be required to complete two voyages as Master within the previous 12 months with a licensed pilot to have the exemption opened up for a larger size vessel or to extend his/her exemption to another area within a Pilotage Area. One of these voyages must be completed at night.

If the applicant has not used the exemption to a particular wharf within 6 months, they will be required to complete one voyage with a licensed pilot to that wharf for the exemption to be current for that wharf.

Use Within Pilotage Areas

A licence may be issued for a particular area within a Pilotage Area, provided that all recommendations set out herein governing the qualifications for and issuing of a licence are complied with.

Standard of Examinations

The standard of examination shall be similar to that required for a licensed pilot and shall include:

- Adequate knowledge of the Pilotage Area for which the certificate is required, and in particular of the surroundings, minimum keel clearances, tides and currents, buoys, beacons, lights and signals of or within that Pilotage Area of the approaches thereto
- Ability to satisfactorily complete blank charts of the said Pilotage Area marking thereon soundings and characteristics of the existing buoys, beacons, light, signals and other aids to navigation
- Adequate knowledge of the relevant Acts and regulations applicable to the Pilotage Area, in particular those relating to dangerous substances
- Thorough knowledge of control requirements in the Pilotage Area, traffic patterns, separation lanes and special signals, rules and communications relating thereto

Period of Validity and Requirements for Re-examination

Subject to the following conditions a, b, c and d below, a licence will be valid for a maximum period of two years from the dating of granting of such licence, and may from time to time be renewed for such period not exceeding two years as is appropriate.

Application for renewal shall be accompanied by evidence of visual and medical fitness and of the date of the last use of the licence. A period of grace for renewal not exceeding two months may be allowed in certain circumstances.

- (a) Where a Master has not used the licence within any period of six months, the licence shall become invalid and may only be re-validated after the Master has made one voyage with a Pilot
- (b) Where a Master has not used the licence within two years, the licence may be re-validated after the Master has made two voyages with a Pilot within a period of two months after expiration of the two year period and has passed and oral examination
- (c) Where a licence has not be re-validated with a period of two years and two months, the licence will be cancelled
- (d) A licence may be suspended by the Chief Executive where major port changes or developments are taking place

Record of Use of Licences

The responsibility for maintaining the validity of the licence is that of the Master, and to this end every Master shall be required to keep a true and correct record of the dates on which it has been used and where applicable, the area navigated within the Pilotage Area. The Master may be asked to produce this record when required.

As an exempt Master you will be required to:

- Comply with any rules, regulations and directions in force with respect to pilots and exempt masters of the port
- Obey and execute all lawful directions issued by the Regional Harbour Master
- Use utmost care and diligence in piloting any vessel of which you have pilotage charge
- Not attempt to undertake pilotage duties when, through illness or other circumstances, you consider yourself unable to perform those duties in a fit and proper manner.

Application and Renewal Checklist

Do you have:

- ✓ A copy of a current and valid Master's Licence
- ✓ Proof of completing training, appropriate to the port, in Radar and ARPA Simulation (Initial Issue)
- ✓ A valid Medical Certificate issued pursuant to Marine Orders 9 "Health-Medical Fitness"
- ✓ A valid Eyesight Certificate issued pursuant to Marine Orders 9 "Health-Medical Fitness"
- ✓ Two (2) color passport size photographs taken not more than 12 months from the date of the application. (Initial issue or replacement only)
- ✓ Completed Marine Application form (F1974)
- ✓ The original of an existing pilotage exemption (Renewal only)
- ✓ A current pilotage assessment report
 - This is required for first issue of an exemption and area endorsement
 - Renewal of an area endorsement if the requirement of at least one arrival and one departure for the pilotage area every six months has not been completed.
 - For the ongoing suitability of an exempt master.