

Guidelines on pilot and exempt master training

March 2017

A licensed pilot may be responsible for training or checking applicants for pilot licences and exemption from pilotage.

A licensed pilot may also be required to provide training for, or to check, existing pilot licence holders who are upgrading their pilotage area endorsement(s).

A licensed pilot providing training must hold, as a minimum:

- a licence for the class of ship for which an exemption or licence is being sought
- the level of area endorsement being sought by an existing pilot licence holder.

Definitions

For the purposes of this document a:

Conducting pilot — is a person who is licensed under a regulation as a pilot and who has conduct of a ship as its pilot.

Mentoring pilot — is a person who is licensed under a regulation as a pilot and who is on board a ship to train a conducting pilot or a master seeking an exemption from pilotage licence.

Check pilot — is a person who is licensed under a regulation as a pilot and who is on board a ship to assess a conducting pilot's competence as pilot or a master's competence to be issued an exemption from pilotage licence.

Temporary authority — is a form which empowers a person to perform the role of a conducting pilot or exempt master, while under the supervision of a mentoring pilot or during assessment by a check pilot, pending the issue of a licence or endorsement for the qualification being sought.

Training for applicants for a pilot licence or an exemption from pilotage

An applicant for a pilot licence or an exemption from pilotage must undertake a prescribed number of trips as an observer.

During this period of observations (but not necessarily during pilotage operations), the conducting pilot will be required to provide theoretical training to the observer which includes, but is not limited to:

- local regulations and other statutory requirements
- local shipping operations
- passage planning within a pilotage area
- the limits of the port and all other hazards and relevant physical characteristics of the port and pilotage area, including:
 - names of channels, berths, shoals, headlands and points in the area
 - minimum depths in channels and alongside berths
 - all navigational marks, leads and lights with their descriptions
 - tidal streams and currents
 - reporting points
 - position of submarine cables and pipelines
 - prohibited areas for anchoring, restricted areas, shoals and other dangers
 - use of current technology and bridge equipment
 - practical and theoretical training in ship handling
 - local and general marine safety including:
 - international, national and local legislation
 - concerning navigational safety and pollution prevention
 - courses and distances between main navigation marks
 - characteristics of lights, fog signals and radar beacons
 - ship traffic management systems used in Queensland ports
 - radio navigational warnings
 - weather stations
 - use of tugs, their propulsion and manoeuvring characteristics and their limitations
 - characteristics of the various types of ships likely to be piloted including advantages and limitations imposed by various propulsion and steering systems

- factors affecting the safe handling of ships including squat, interaction water depth and bank effect
- under keel clearance systems
- under keel clearance limits
- general set, rise and duration of tides including factors affecting the predictions of tidal heights
- areas of recreational boating.

Issue of a temporary authority

Once the minimum number of observation trips has been undertaken and written and oral examinations successfully completed, a temporary authority allowing advancement to practical training will be issued.

During practical training the mentoring pilot will also be required to provide instruction on the operational procedures of the port for which the exemption or licence is being sought.

Accountability of licence holders

The accountability of the trainee and the mentoring pilot, for incidents which occur during practical training, will be determined on a case by case basis.

Further information

More detailed information and application be obtained from the relevant regional office:

Brisbane	(07) 3632 7500
Gladstone	(07) 4971 5200
Mackay	(07) 4944 3700
Townsville	(07) 4421 8100
Cairns	(07) 4052 7400

Disclaimer: All information is correct at the time of publication. To avoid any inconvenience it is advisable to check with a regional office for current accuracy.