

TRANSPORT CANADA OFFICE OF BOATING SAFETY PACIFIC PLEASURE CRAFT COURTESY CHECK BULLETIN

Bulletin 05-07

Operator Competency Requirements

This Transport Canada, Office of Boating Safety Pacific PCCC bulletin is issued under the authority of the Regional Manager Boating Safety, Transport Canada. This bulletin has been issued to provide clarity and direction to PCCC checkers. The information in this bulletin provides additional and updated information in addition to the TC PCCC manual. **Any questions or enquires concerning this bulletin or any other particulars of the TC PCCC program are to be directed to Boating Safety Officer Mike Mitchell, Officer Primary Interest Transport Canada Pleasure Craft Courtesy Check Program.**

The following changes have been made to the Competency of Operators of Pleasure Craft regulations that affect the PCCC course and check requirements found on Pages 111 to 120 of the student manual March 2004 4th edition.

PROHIBITIONS

3. (1) Subject to subsection (2), no person shall operate a pleasure craft unless the person
 - (a) is competent to operate the pleasure craft in accordance with section 4; and
 - (b) has proof of competency on board.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person who
 - (a) is operating the pleasure craft under the supervision of an instructor, as part of an accredited course;
 - (b) is not a resident of Canada and whose pleasure craft is in Canada for less than 45 consecutive days; or
 - (c) was born before April 2, 1983, has proof of age on board and operates a pleasure craft of at least 4 m in length before September 15, 2009; or
 - (d) has proof on board that they hold a MED-A4 certificate or any certificate referred to in paragraphs 2(a) to (s), (z.18) or (z.43) of the *Marine Certification Regulations*.
- (2.1) No owner, master, operator, charterer, hirer, person in charge of a pleasure craft or person who makes a pleasure craft available for rent shall allow a person to operate the pleasure craft unless that person is a person referred to in subsection (1) or (2).
- (3) A person referred to in paragraph (2)(b) or 4(2)(b) shall not operate a pleasure craft without proof of residency on board the pleasure craft.

COMPETENCY

4. (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person is competent to operate a pleasure craft
 - (a) if the person has received a mark of at least 75 per cent on a test and has been issued a Pleasure Craft Operator Card;
 - (b) if the person had successfully completed a boating safety course in Canada before April 1, 1999 and has a Boating Safety Course Completion Card or other written proof of that completion;
 - (c) in the case of a rented pleasure craft,
 - (i) only for the rental period, if both the person who makes the pleasure craft available for rent and the person who will operate the pleasure craft complete and sign before the pleasure craft is operated, a rental boat safety checklist that contains the information referred to in section 8, or
 - (ii) if the person meets the condition set out in paragraph (a) or (b).
- (2) A person who is not a resident of Canada is competent to operate a pleasure craft if the person
 - (a) has proof of competency as set out in subsection (1); or

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(b) has been issued a certificate or other similar document by the person's state or country of residence attesting that the person has acquired the boating safety knowledge required by the state or country.

List of Marine Safety Certificates Recognized for The Competency of Operators of Pleasure Craft Regulations.

- Master mariner;
- Master, intermediate voyage;
- Master, local voyage;
- First mate, intermediate voyage;
- First mate, local voyage;
- Watchkeeping mate, ship;
- Restricted watchkeeping mate, ship;
- Watchkeeping mate, MODU/surface;
- Watchkeeping mate, MODU/self-elevating;
- Watchkeeping mate, MODU/inland;
- Master, ship of not more than 350 tons, gross tonnage, or tug, local voyage;
- Master, limited;
- First mate, limited;
- Fishing master, first-class;
- Fishing master, second-class;
- Fishing master, third-class;
- Fishing master, fourth-class;
- Certificate of service as master of a fishing vessel of not more than 100 tons, gross tonnage;
- Certificate of service as master of a ship of not more than 1600 tons, gross tonnage;
- Bridge watchman;
- Proficiency in fast rescue boats.
- MED-A4

The requirement of having proof of competency on board still applies; the boater may determine that it is more convenient to have a PCOC. The card can be obtained for a fee through an authorized course provider with proof of Marine Certification as noted above.

Check Criteria

- These regulations apply to operators of pleasure craft only, fitted with a motor and operated for recreational purposes in Canadian waters, who are born after April 1, 1983 and all operators who operate a vessel less than 4 metres. All operators will require proof of competency by September 15, 2009. Proof of competency is not required for the waters of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
- These regulations don't apply to non-residents and whose pleasure craft is in Canada less than 45 consecutive days. The non-resident will be considered competent if they have been issued a certificate by the person's state or country of residence attesting that they have acquired the boating safety knowledge by the state or country.
- Proof of Competency can take one of four forms:
 1. Proof of having taken a boating safety course prior to April 1, 1999.
 2. PCOC issued following successful completion of a CCG or Transport Canada accredited test.
 3. The completion of a rental-boat safety checklist for a power driven rental boat. (Valid only for that rental boat and rental period).
 4. Proof of a Canadian Marine Certificate as noted in this bulletin.