

Entry Qualifications for Deck Officer certification courses

The Deck Officer certification courses offered by Warsash Maritime Academy lead to the award of STCW '95 Certificates of Competency under the governance of the UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA). The MCA has a comprehensive website giving access to all relevant training guidance documents at:

www.mcga.gov.uk

Candidates for Deck Officer certification courses should refer to the following documents as appropriate in the '*Marine Guidance Notes*' section of '*Guidance & Regulations*' on the MCA website for information relating to entry qualifications:

MGN 8 (M)	Training and Certification Guidance - Part 8 Education and Training Schemes
MGN 91 (M)	Training and Certification Guidance - Part 1 General Requirements for Certification and Medical Fitness
MGN 92 (M)	Training and Certification Guidance - Part 2 Certificates of Competency - Deck Department
MGN 96 (M)	Training and Certification Guidance - Part 6 Emergency, Occupational Safety, Medical Care and Survival Functions
MGN 97 (M)	Training and Certification Guidance - Part 10 Ratings
MGN 221 (M)	Training and Certification Guidance - Part 19 Certificates of Equivalent Competency

Please refer any queries you may have regarding these Marine Guidance Notes, specific training requirements, Notices of Eligibility enquiries or MCA Oral Examination applications directly to MCA at:

Seafarer Standards Branch
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Seafarers' Standards Branch
Spring Place
105 Commercial Road
Southampton SO15 1EG

Tel: +44 (0) 2380 329 231
Fax: +44 (0) 2380 329 252
E-mail: Exams_Section@mcga.gov.uk
Website: www.mcga.gov.uk

It is the responsibility of candidates to ensure that all the entry requirements for a particular course and any associated MCA examination are met prior to attending the course, including but not limited to:

1. Payment of a deposit in advance of the course to secure your place on the course, and payment of the remainder of the course fee upon commencement of the course.

2. Availability of sufficient funds for personal subsistence throughout the course duration. Please note that accommodation and catering are not included in the tuition fees.
3. Holding a personal medical fitness certificate recognised by the MCA.
4. Achievement of the requisite sea service for MCA examination, with seaman's discharge book entries or discharge papers in your possession as verification.

Where additional sea service is required, the candidate is responsible for making the necessary arrangements with their company, sponsor or third party, as WMA is unable to assist students in this respect.

5. Achievement of the requisite Bridge watchkeeping time, with Sea Service Testimonials in your possession as verification.

Please see MGN 8 (M) (Training and Certification Guidance - Part 8 - Education and Training Schemes) for examples of the MCA's standard formats for Sea Service Testimonials, which are recommended for providing the necessary evidence.

6. Achievement of any STCW '95 short courses, which are detailed as a pre-requisite for commencing the course, with original course certificates in your possession as verification.
7. Achievement of all required STCW '95 short courses before undertaking MCA Oral examination, with original course certificates in your possession as verification.
8. Application for and possession of an MCA Notice of Eligibility (NOE) for MCA examination, where appropriate, before the NOE has to be presented for access to examinations and in sufficient time to identify specific training requirements or exemptions.
9. Having a valid and current Certificate of Competency in your possession when you commence a senior Deck course.

NOTE: Please refer to the relevant Deck Officer Training Charts for an overview on progression from commencement of training as a Deck Cadet, or progression from experienced seafarer, up to achievement of a Master's Certificate of Competency.

Additional Requirements for Overseas students

10. Overseas students must hold a passport and UK entry visa, which will remain valid for the full duration of the course and examinations. Please refer to the UK Border Agency's website (<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk>) for the latest information.
11. Overseas students are also expected to hold an English language qualification to the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) level, or equivalent, specified for the course to be undertaken. Please refer to the IELTS website for further information on testing (<http://www.ielts.org>).