

**1973/195**

**THE SHIPPING (CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY  
AS QUALIFIED FISHING DECKHAND)  
REGULATIONS 1973**

—  
DENIS BLUNDELL, Governor-General

**ORDER IN COUNCIL**

At the Government House at Wellington this 6th day of August 1973

Present:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to the Shipping and Seamen Act 1952, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following regulations.

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**REGULATIONS**

**1. Title and commencement**—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Shipping (Certificates of Competency as Qualified Fishing Deckhand) Regulations 1973.

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the 1st day of September 1973.

**2. Interpretation**—In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,—

“The Act” means the Shipping and Seamen Act 1952:

“Approved course” means a course of instruction for fishermen approved by the Director of the Marine Division of the Ministry of Transport:

“Certificate” means a certificate of competency as qualified fishing deckhand issued by the Secretary for Transport in accordance with the provisions of the Act:

“Prescribed fee” means the fee prescribed by regulation 8 hereof:

“At sea” means outside river limits; and “service at sea” and “sea service” mean service in a ship plying outside such limits:

**3. Issue of certificate**—(1) A certificate shall be issued to any person who—

- (a) Has passed the examination prescribed by regulation 6 hereof;  
and

- (b) Has produced satisfactory proof of not less than 12 months' service at sea in fishing boats of which at least 3 months have been served in fishing boats of over 9 metres register length; and
- (c) Has produced satisfactory testimonials as to conduct and ability for at least the last 12 months of sea service.

(2) A certificate shall be issued to the holder of a certificate of competency as A.B. who produces proof of at least 3 months' service at sea in fishing boats of over 9 metres register length and who has passed the examination prescribed by regulation 6 hereof:

Provided that any person who is the holder of a certificate of competency as A.B. at the date of commencement of these regulations shall not be required to pass the examination prescribed by regulation 6 hereof if—

- (a) He produces satisfactory proof of not less than 3 months' service at sea in fishing boats; and
- (b) He applies for a certificate within 6 months after the date of commencement of these regulations.

(3) A certificate shall be issued to the holder of a certificate of competency as inshore fishing skipper who produces proof of at least 3 months' service at sea in fishing boats of over 9 metres register length and who has passed the practical part of the examination prescribed by regulation 6 hereof.

**4. Qualifying service—**(1) Qualifying sea service, except as hereinafter provided, shall be performed in a deck capacity, except in the case of a fishing boat of less than 15.24 metres register length where combined deck and engine service shall be accepted in full.

(2) Certificates of discharge shall be accepted as proof of service.

(3) Where certificates of discharge are not granted, satisfactory proof of the qualifying service shall be either—

- (a) A letter from the ship's owner, skipper, or agent stating the register length of the ship and the type of fishing in which it was employed, together with the dates of employment of the applicant and the capacity in which he was employed; or
- (b) A statutory declaration made by the applicant, setting out in full the information required by paragraph (a) of this sub-clause in respect of each ship on which he was employed. The applicant shall also produce a statement from a harbourmaster or an Inspector of Fisheries, or an official of a Fishermen's Association, a Fishermen's Federation, or a similar registered body, supporting the accuracy of the information contained in the declaration.

(4) Attendance at an approved course shall be accepted as qualifying sea service at the full rate up to a maximum of 3 months, provided evidence is produced showing that the course has been satisfactorily completed.

**5. Verification of testimonials and discharges**—If the Superintendent of Mercantile Marine has reason to doubt the authenticity or accuracy of any testimonials or discharges, he may require verification and shall take whatever action he considers necessary to obtain such verification. In the absence of the necessary verification, the candidate shall not be permitted to sit the examination and shall not be issued with a certificate.

**6. The examination**—(1) Application for the examination shall be made to a Superintendent of Mercantile Marine. The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee, the applicant's birth certificate, and proof of sea service required by subclause (2) of this regulation and, where applicable evidence of having satisfactorily completed an approved course.

(2) An applicant shall be accepted for the examination provided he is not less than 16 years of age and has completed not less than 6 months' qualifying sea service in fishing boats.

(3) An applicant shall be advised of the time and place of his examination at the time of making his application.

(4) The examination shall be an oral and practical examination, and the syllabus shall be as specified in the Schedule to these regulations.

(5) On completion of the examination, the Examiner shall advise the candidate in writing of the result of the examination.

(6) If the candidate fails in the examination, he shall be eligible for re-examination after a period of not less than 1 month from the date of the examination:

Provided that where the Examiner finds a candidate to be seriously deficient in practical knowledge, the Examiner may require the candidate to perform a further period of not more than 3 months' sea service in fishing boats before re-examination.

**7. Replacement of lost or illegible certificates**—Any person who has lost his certificate or whose certificate has become illegible may have a certified copy issued to him on written application to a Superintendent of Mercantile Marine. The application shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee prescribed by regulation 8 of these regulations and, in the case of an illegible certificate, by that certificate.

**8. Fees**—The following fees shall be payable under these regulations:

Examination for certificate	.....	.....	.....	\$2
Certified copy of certificate of competency			.....	50c

**9. Revocation**—The Shipping (Certificates of Competency as Qualified Fishing Deckhand) Regulations 1965\* are hereby revoked.

\*S.R. 1965/224



Reg. 6

## SCHEDULE

## SYLLABUS FOR EXAMINATION FOR QUALIFIED FISHING DECKHAND

**Nautical Knowledge**

1. The meaning of common nautical terms which would apply to the work and navigation of a fishing boat.
2. The names and functions of the various parts of a fishing boat, including the equipment and fishing gear.
3. The marine compass: its use for steering. Precautions required when using a compass and automatic pilot.
4. How to keep proper lookout.
5. Recognition of lights and shapes, and an elementary knowledge of the Steering and Sailing Rules, as contained in the International Collision Regulations.
6. The use of distress signals carried by fishing boats.
7. The use of the radiotelephone in an emergency.

**Practical Work**

8. The characteristics and uses of the various types of ropes, wires, and chain to be found on fishing boats. Precautions to be observed when handling ropes and chains.
9. The knots and splices in common use. Means used to prevent the end of a rope or wire from fraying. Stoppers.
10. The use of purchases.
11. How to steer.
12. The use of winch and windlass. Precautions to be taken. The rigging and use of the derrick.
13. The use and maintenance of deck equipment, fishing gear, nets, lifesaving appliances, and fire fighting equipment.
14. Preparing a fishing boat for sea and for heavy weather.
15. Boat cleanliness.
16. Personal safety.
17. A general knowledge of the inflatable liferaft and its equipment. Launching an inflatable liferaft.
18. The principles of survival at sea.

P. G. MILLEN,  
Clerk of the Executive Council.

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.*

These regulations replace the Shipping (Certificates of Competency as Qualified Fishing Deckhand) Regulations 1965.

The principal changes are—

- (a) Certificates may be granted only after examination, except in the case of a holder of a certificate of competency as A.B. who complies with the conditions of regulation 3 (2) and the holder of a certificate of competency as inshore fishing skipper who complies with the conditions of regulation 3 (3).

- (b) The minimum age at which a candidate may present himself for examination is reduced from 18 years to 16 years.
- (c) The provisions as to qualifying sea service are altered.
- (d) The examination syllabus is altered.
- (e) An unsuccessful candidate may present himself for re-examination after 1 month unless the Examiner requires him to perform a further period of sea service under regulation 6 (6).

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Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.  
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 9 August 1973.  
These regulations are administered in the Ministry of Transport.