

Proudly Serving All US Mariners



Obtaining a Merchant Mariner Credential

1-888-427-5662

iasknmc@uscg.mil

www.uscg.mil/nmc

Please visit our website for more information regarding our Merchant Mariner Credentials.

Remember - all applications for mariner credentials must be submitted through your local Regional Exam Center (REC).



**The National Maritime Center
100 Forbes Drive
Martinsburg, WV 25404**

Message from the Commanding Officer of the National Maritime Center (NMC)



Our mission is to issue credentials to fully-qualified Mariners in the most effective and efficient manner possible in order to assure a safe, secure, economically efficient and environmentally sound Marine Transportation System.

NMC is proud to work with each US Mariner to ensure that we are protecting our vast waterways. We have a long-standing tradition of always putting the Mariner first and we will do whatever we can by legal means to help them become a credentialed Mariner.

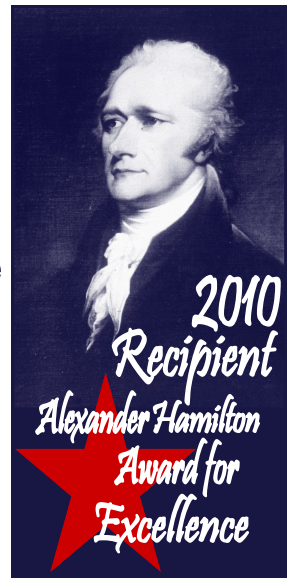
Today, the NMC is using state of the art technology to help speed up our processing of Merchant Mariner Credentials. By using databases and our website we are moving toward a total interactive online system.

Our goal for the next few years is to automate the entire process online, via the Internet, by offering interactive systems that will help each Merchant Mariner to better understand the credentialing process. NMC deals with more than 250,000 mariners on an annual basis. By automating our process, we will be able to continue to reduce processing time and help our mariners more efficiently.

Continuous improvement has been our theme throughout the transition of the NMC. The NMC opened its permanent facility (Martinsburg, West Virginia) in 2008. Since that time, we have been working very hard to reduce and maintain our net processing time at less than 30 days. We still have a lot of work to do, but with your help we will continue to improve our process and services to all US Merchant Mariners throughout the world.

Sincerely yours,

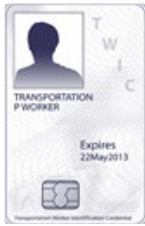
**Anthony S. Lloyd
Commanding Officer of NMC**



How to Obtain a Merchant Mariner Credential

1

If applicable, obtain a Transportation Worker's Identification Credential (TWIC) from the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) *



2

Submit CG-719B (Application for Merchant Mariner Credential) to a local Regional Exam Center (REC) in person or by mail *



3

Application content is verified by the REC and forwarded to the National Maritime Center (NMC) for processing **



4

Application is reviewed

- **Security** (Criminal record review, verify citizenship)
- **Medical** (719KE for entry level; 719K Physical Exam form completed w/in 12 months of application date)
- **Professional Qualifications** (service experience, training, examinations) **



5

Mariner credential is printed

6

Credential is mailed to mariner



To check the status of a credential application, go to homeport.uscg.mil, click the **Merchant Mariner** heading in the lower left column and select **Merchant Mariner Application Status**. Please have your Merchant Mariner reference number and follow the on-screen directions.

Please remember!

- Mariners may mail or email their application (CG-719B) to a local REC.
- Use www.pay.gov to pay all fees associated with an MMC. Include a copy of the www.pay.gov receipt with the MMC application.
- In order to avoid delays, remember to include ALL documentation, training, sea time, and medical records.
- Mariners with an email address will be notified each time the status of their credential changes by electronic mail.
- The NMC's website is always available and provides additional information about the Merchant Mariner Credentialing Program. www.uscg.mil/nmc
- Have a question? Call or write to the NMC. Email: iasknmc@uscg.mil. Phone: 1-888-IASKNMC (1-888-427-5662)

Notes

- * 1 - For TWIC Information: http://www.tsa.gov/what_we_do/layers/twic/index.shtm To determine if a TWIC is needed, see Policy Letter No. 11-15 (http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/marpers/pag/twic_809_policy_letter.pdf)
- 2 - Mariners may also be required to submit CG-719K / CG-719K/E (Mariner Medical Forms), CG-719P (Drug Test), etc. REC Mailing Addresses can be found at <http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/recs>
- 3 - Application content is verified using the MMC Application Acceptance Checklist within 48 hours of submittal by the mariner (http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/MLD-FM-NMC1-08_Application_Acceptance_Checklist.pdf)
- 4- Once approved to test, mariners have one calendar year to complete their qualifying tests

* Mariners are contacted by mail via an Awaiting Information letter if additional clarification is required