

Ref (a) ENLISTED ACCESSIONS, ADVANCEMENTS, AND EVALUATIONS, COMDTINST M1000.2(SERIES)

Ref (b) ALCOAST 033/11

ESOs,

In accordance with ref (a), Section 3.A.8.c., and indicated in ref (b), effective immediately the new MST1 Rating Advancement Test (RAT) 000134 edition 7 and 000234 edition 1 are available to administer to MSTs who have completed their Rating Performance Qualifications (RPQs).

The MST1 and MST2 RATs are the CG's first enterprise level e-testing application. As announced during the ESO Symposium in August, MST RATS will be administered, graded, and recorded online using Questionmark Perception software by using the instructions provided in paragraphs 2. and 3, below.

1. Effective immediately, all MST courses and PQGs are cancelled. The most recent versions are MST1 course 0134, edition 6 and MST2 course 0234 edition 5. As per Ref (A), section 3.A.8.c. "Revision of Rate Training Courses", the following are requirements for all MSTs:

- (1) Members who passed the End of Course Test (EOCT) for MST1 Course 0134, edition 6 do NOT have to pass the RAT to maintain eligibility for advancement, but must complete the MST1 RPQS IAW ref (b).
- (2) Members who passed the End of Course Test (EOCT) for MST2 Course 0234, edition 5 must pass the MST2 RAT to maintain eligibility for the MST2 SWE.

2. Instructions for Questionmark Perception setup. In order to administer the RAT, you'll need to have a Questionmark account established. Accounts have been setup for ESOs expected to administer the RAT, however ESOs without a Questionmark account must submit a request to the Coast Guard Institute's Course Support (CST) and Testing Division via the Training & Academia Customer Care Tracking System (TACCTS). Technical issues encountered while taking the exam will be addressed by the OSC HELPDESK at 1-877-USCG-SYS12.

3. Instructions for administering the RAT online. The RATs are accessed through the CG LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS) hosted within CGPORTAL, as follows:

- (1) GO TO [HTTPS://CGPORTAL.USCG.MIL](https://CGPORTAL.USCG.MIL)
- (2) CLICK "LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM" (MENU ON LEFT SIDE OF SCREEN)
- (3) SELECT THE "ENLISTED ADVANCEMENT" CATALOG
- (4) SELECT THE "MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN (MST)" CATALOG
- (5) SELECT THE DESIRED COURSE, ENROLL, AND LAUNCH IT.
- (6) THE ESO WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER HIS/HER USERNAME/PASSWORD TO ALLOW THE MEMBER TO TAKE THE TEST.

(7) TEST SCORES WILL BE UPLOADED AND RECORDED IN DIRECT ACCESS BY CG INSTITUTE.

4. Instructions for administering the paper-based tests. The Coast Guard Institute (CGI) will provide a paper-based version of the RAT with limited or no connectivity, upon request. The test results will be entered into the Institute's course completion database for further transfer into direct access.

5. Retesting period. Because of the shortened testing cycle, it is anticipated that the 21-Day waiting period in between test attempts will be temporarily reduced to 14-days for the current SWE eligibility cycle ending on 1 Feb 2012. This waiver does not apply until announced by ALCOAST which is anticipated in early November.

6. Units are reminded that IAW ref(a), all requirements, including the RAT, must be completed by the 1 Feb 2012 SWE eligibility date to be eligible for the May 2012 SWE, and by 1 Jul 2012 for the Oct 12 Reserve SWE. Members are encouraged to complete the RAT at least 24 hours prior to the SWE eligibility date to ensure the test score is reflected in their personal data extract.

7. The MST RFMC will also directly provide informal notification to all MSTs of the information listed in this email.

Please use the following POCs if you have any questions:

MST SWE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, MSTCM JEFF LANG, MST RATING FORCE MASTER CHIEF,  
(202)372-1342

ESO ACCESS QUESTIONS: CST Division via (405) 954-2437

TECHNICAL ISSUES ENCOUNTERED WHILE TAKING THE EXAM: OSC HELPDESK 1-877-USCG-SYS12.

RAT COMPOSITION: MSTCM JAMES HEARD (757)856-2101