



# BERMUDA MERCHANT SHIPPING GUIDANCE NOTICE

STCW Short Courses

2026-03

## Application

Ship Owners, Managers (Ship and Crew managers) of Bermuda registered ships and seafarers serving on Bermuda registered ships.

## Summary

This notice is to guide Ship Owners, Managers (Ship and Crew managers) of Bermuda registered ships and seafarers serving on Bermuda registered ships about the acceptance of STCW short courses Certificates of Proficiency or other documentary evidence issued by countries on the IMO STCW White-List for service on Bermuda registered ships.

This Notice was issued on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

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## 1. Introduction

- 1) Certificates of Proficiency towards the STCW short/ancillary courses outlined below and issued by any Administration or authorised training providers approved by any Administration on the IMO STCW White-List are acceptable for service on board Bermuda registered ships.
- 2) The mode of training (In person, online, remote etc) for each STCW short course is determined by the approving Administration in their instructions to their approved training providers.
- 3) Certificates of Proficiency or other documentary evidence from an Administration or approved training provider on the IMO STCW White-List, are acceptable for service on board Bermuda registered ships.

## 2.Tankers:

- 1) STCW Convention Regulation V/1-1, Paragraphs 1-2: Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations.
  - a. (Operational level officers and ratings serving on board oil and chemical tankers)
- 2) STCW Convention Regulation V/1-1, Paragraphs 3-4: Advanced training for oil tanker operations.
  - a. (Masters, Chief Engineer Officers, Chief mates, Second Engineer Officers and any person with immediate responsibility for loading, discharging, care in transit, handling of cargo, tank cleaning or other cargo related operations on oil tankers)
- 3) STCW Convention Regulation A-V/1-1, Paragraphs 5-6: Advanced training for chemical tanker cargo operations.
  - a. (Masters, Chief Engineer Officers, Chief mates, Second Engineer Officers and any person with immediate responsibility for loading, discharging, care in transit, handling of cargo, tank cleaning or other cargo related operations on chemical tankers)
- 4) STCW Convention Regulation V/1-2, Paragraphs 1-2: Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations.
  - a. (Operational level officers and ratings serving on board liquefied gas tankers)
- 5) STCW Code Regulation A-V/1-2, Paragraphs 3-4: Advanced training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations.
  - a. (Masters, Chief Engineer Officers, Chief mates, Second Engineer Officers and any person with immediate responsibility for loading, discharging, care in transit, handling of cargo, tank cleaning or other cargo related operations on liquefied gas tankers)
- 6) Certificates of Proficiency relating to training detailed in 2.2, 2.3 and 2.5 above, must be issued by an Administration on the list of acceptable countries for issuance of a Bermuda endorsement (Appendix 1 of Bermuda Merchant Shipping Notice YYYY-015 Officer Certification and Issue of Endorsements). Certificates of Proficiency relating to training detailed in 2.1 and 2.4 can be issued by any Administration on the IMO STCW White List. Course completion certificates issued by training providers are not acceptable.
- 7) Officers are required to undergo revalidation training for the courses referenced in 2.1 – 2.5 above every five years.

### 3.Passenger ships:

- 1) STCW Code Regulation A-V/2, Paragraph 1: Passenger ship emergency familiarisation.
  - a. All personnel serving on board passenger ships.
- 2) STCW Code Regulation A-V/2, Paragraph 2: Safety training for personnel providing direct service to passengers in passenger areas.
  - a. Personnel providing direct service to passengers in passenger spaces.
- 3) STCW Code Regulation A-V/2, Paragraph 3: Passenger ship crowd management training.
  - a. Masters, officers and ratings qualified in accordance with Chapters II, III and VII and other personnel designated on the muster list as assisting passengers in emergency situations.
- 4) STCW Code Regulation A-V/2, Paragraph 4: Crisis management and human behaviour training.
  - a. Masters, Chief Engineer Officers, Chief mates, Second Engineer Officers and any person designated on the muster list of having responsibility for the safety of passengers in emergency situations.
- 5) STCW Code Regulation A-V/2, Paragraph 5: Passenger safety, cargo safety and hull integrity training.
  - a. Masters, Chief Engineer Officers, Chief mates, Second Engineer Officers, and every person assigned immediate responsibility for embarking and disembarking passengers, for loading, discharging, or securing cargo, or for closing hull openings on board ro-ro passenger ships.
- 6) Documentary evidence of the training that has been completed pertaining to items 3.1 – 3.5 above must be held by all personnel.
- 7) Masters, officers, ratings and other personnel holding crowd management training, crisis management and human behaviour training, and passenger safety, cargo safety and hull integrity training certificates are required to undertake appropriate refresher training or be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence within the previous five years.

#### 4. Ships subject to the IGF Code:

- 1) Seafarers responsible for designated safety duties associated with the care, use or emergency response to the fuel on board ships subject to the IGF Code shall hold a certificate in basic training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code.
- 2) Masters, engineer officers and all personnel with immediate responsibility for the care and use of fuels and fuel systems on ships subject to the IGF Code shall hold a certificate in advanced training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code.
- 3) Seafarers are required to hold Certificates of Proficiency for basic or advanced IGF training. Certificates of Proficiency relating to Basic IGF training issued by any Administration on the IMO STCW White List are acceptable. For Advanced IGF training, the Certificate of Proficiency must be issued by an Administration on the list of acceptable countries for issuance of a Bermuda endorsement (Appendix 1 of Bermuda Merchant Shipping Notice 2025-015- Officer Certification and Issue of Endorsements) and are required to undertake appropriate refresher training at intervals not exceeding five years or be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence within the previous five years.

#### 5. Ships operating in polar waters:

- 1) Officers in charge of a navigational watch on ships operating in polar waters shall hold a certificate in basic training for ships operating in Polar waters, as required by the Polar Code.
- 2) Masters and Chief mates on ships operating in polar waters, shall hold a certificate in advanced training for ships operating in polar waters, as required by the Polar Code.
- 3) Masters, Chief mates and Officers in charge of a navigational watch on ships operating in polar waters are required to hold Advanced Training/Basic training. Certificates of Proficiency relating to Basic Polar Code training issued by any Administration on the IMO STCW White List are acceptable. For Advanced Polar Code training, the Certificate of Proficiency must be issued by an Administration on the list of acceptable countries for issuance of a Bermuda endorsement (Appendix 1 of Bermuda Merchant Shipping Notice 2025-015- Officer Certification and Issue of Endorsements)

#### 6. All ships:

- 1) Basic Safety Training (STCW Regulation VI/1).
  - a. Certificates of Proficiency issued by an approved training provider or Administration on the IMO STCW White List are required for all

seafarers on board cargo ships and for primary crew with designated safety and pollution prevention duties (as defined in the STCW Convention 1978, as amended) on board passenger ships for the following courses:

- i. Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities (PSSR)
  - ii. Personal Survival Techniques (PST)
  - iii. Elementary First Aid (EFA)
  - iv. Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting (FPFF)
- 2) Certificate of Proficiency in survival craft, rescue boats and fast rescue boats (as appropriate) (STCW Regulation VI/2).
  - a. Required for all Management Level and Operational Level officers and for ratings assigned as coxswains/in charges of lifeboats/rescue boats/fast rescue boats on passenger ships.
  - b. Issued by an approved training provider or Administration on the IMO STCW White-List.
- 3) Certificate of Proficiency in Advanced Fire Fighting (STCW Regulation VI/3).
  - a. Required for all Management Level and seafarers designated to control fire-fighting operations.
  - b. Issued by an approved training provider or Administration on the list of acceptable countries for issuance of a Bermuda endorsement. (Appendix 1 of Bermuda Merchant Shipping Notice 2025-015- Officer Certification and Issue of Endorsements).
- 4) Certificate of Proficiency in Medical First Aid (STCW Regulation VI/4).
  - a. Required for all seafarers designated to provide medical first aid on board a ship.
  - b. Issued by an approved training provider or Administration on the IMO STCW White-List.
- 5) Certificate of Proficiency in Medical Care (STCW Regulation VI/4).
  - a. Required for all seafarers designated to take charge of medical care on board a ship.
  - b. Issued by an approved training provider or Administration on the list of acceptable countries for issuance of a Bermuda endorsement. (Appendix 1 of Bermuda Merchant Shipping Notice 2025-015- Officer Certification and Issue of Endorsements).

- 6) Certificate of Proficiency as Ship Security Officer (STCW Regulation VI/5)
  - a. Required for all seafarers in the role or rank of Ship Security Officer.
  - b. Issued by an approved training provider or Administration on the IMO STCW White-List.
- 7) Certificate of Proficiency in security awareness training (STCW Regulation VI/6)
  - a. Required for all seafarers.
  - b. Issued by an approved training provider or Administration on the IMO STCW White List.
- 8) Certificate of Proficiency in designated security duties
  - a. Required for seafarers with designated security duties.
  - b. Issued by an approved training provider or Administration on the IMO STCW White List.
- 9) Refresher training shall be undertaken at intervals of not exceeding five years for those courses mandated by the STCW Convention 1978, as amended.