

MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTICE NO. 111/2025

(Miscellaneous Information)

New Requirements on Medical Fitness Certificate for Application or Revalidation of Local Certificate of Competency

This Notice serves to inform owners, coxswains, engine operators and applicants for Local Certificates of Competency (“**LCoC**”) that the following new requirements will be effective from **30 June 2025** (“**Effective Date**”) regarding medical fitness certificate (“**MFC**”):

- (i) a MFC issued by a recognized medical practitioner shall be required in all new application for the issuance or revalidation of any class of LCoC ; and
- (ii) persons operating high-risk vessels (“**HRVs**”)¹ will be required to hold a valid MFC with effect from the Effective Date onwards.

2. In applying for a new LCoC or revalidation of a LCoC, the applicant shall submit to Marine Department (“**MD**”) a MFC issued by a medical practitioner recognized by MD. Once a LCoC is issued or revalidated, subject to paragraph 3, a new MFC will only be required at the next LCoC revalidation application.

3. All coxswains and engine operators operating HRVs are required to obtain a MFC every five years and a copy of the MFC shall be forwarded to MD for record and enforcement purposes. This requirement will be implemented through imposing a licensing condition in the individual Operating Licence of all HRVs. The owner or operator of HRV will receive a revised Operating Licence with the newly imposed condition.

4. The current requirement for coxswains of Class I vessels carrying more than 100 passengers to undergo a medical examination every five years² will be

¹ High-risk vessel means all vessels carrying passengers (i.e. Class I vessels) and vessels carrying dangerous goods (i.e. Class II vessels – gas, noxious liquid substance and oil carriers).

² Referring to MDN No. 156 of 2016 for details.

replaced by the MFC. A five-year transition period from the Effective Date will be provided for one-time acceptance of a valid medical examination reports conducted within five years prior to the Effective Date in lieu of the MFC.

5. The examination rules for applying a new local CoC or revalidate an existing local CoC are updated accordingly in Chapters 3 and 11 of “Examination Rules for Local Certificates of Competency” and Chapters 3 and 9 of “Examination Rules for Pleasure Vessel Operator Certificate of Competency” respectively. The updated examination rules are posted on MD’s website:

https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub_services/pdf/examrules_lv.pdf

https://www.mardep.gov.hk/filemanager/en/share/pub-services/pdf/examrules_ploc.pdf

6. For enquiry, please contact the River Trade and Local Examination Section (Address: 3/F Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong, Tel.: 2852 4368, Fax: 2541 6754, email: ssrtl@mardep.gov.hk).

Mr. S.F. WONG
Director of Marine

Marine Department

Government of the HKSAR

Date: 6 June 2025

Action File Ref.: MD-RTLES-F03-070-01A-G&I05