



Marine Order 72 – Certificate of Competency Engineer Watchkeeper

The following provides a summary of the requirements for an Engineer Watchkeeper Certificate of Competency. This certificate is issued under Marine Order 70 (Seafarer certification) 2014 and Marine Order 72 (Engineer officers) 2014, made under the Navigation Act 2012.

What will I be able to do with this certificate? You will be able to perform the duties of:

✓	Engineer Watchkeeper Officer in charge of an engineering watch on ships of any propulsion power in any operating area
✓	If endorsed, Second Engineer duties on ships <3000 kW in any operating area
✓	If endorsed, Chief Engineer duties on ships <3000 kW operating in near-coastal waters

How do I get this certificate?

To obtain an **Engineer Watchkeeper** Certificate of Competency you will need to:

- Have completed one of the following programs:

Program	Workshop skills	Sea Service	Academic
a) Engineer Cadet (minimum duration of 3 years)	Need to complete an approved course of workshop skills of no less than 36 weeks duration	36 weeks on vessels ≥750 kW of which 26 weeks performed engine-room watch keeping duties under the supervision of an engineer officer	An approved course of study from an AMSA approved seafarer training organisation (RTO) for an Engineer Watchkeeper which complies with STCW Code section A-III/1
b) Trainee Engineer	Holds a workshop skills equivalent qualification. (Engineer Certificate III or one of the 11 relevant trades specified) or another approved qualification that includes workshop skills as specified with STCW Code Table A-III/1 column 1	36 weeks on vessels ≥750 kW of which 26 weeks performed engine-room watch keeping duties under the supervision of an engineer officer	
c) Engineering Experience Training (for a person with a unrestricted State/ Territory issued Engineer Class 3 or Engineer Class 3 NC)	As determined by the RTO taking into account any relevant education, skills or practical experience as specified in STCW Code Table A-III/1 column 1.	26 weeks while holding an unrestricted Engineer Class 3 / Engineer Class 3 NC certificate on vessels ≥750 kW	

- Have completed an On Board Training Record Book.
- Have completed the following approved STCW short courses:
 - Basic Safety Training course, which includes Security Awareness Training.
- Hold the following valid certificates:
 - Certificate of Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than Fast Rescue Boats.
 - AMSA Certificate of Medical Fitness.
- Pass an AMSA oral examination.

What is needed for the endorsements?

For endorsement as Second Engineer on ships <3000 kW in any operating area you must complete:

- At least 12 months sea service on ships ≥750 kW propulsion power, and
- Approved program of study that meets the standards specified in STCW Code section A-III/3.

For endorsement as Chief Engineer on ships <3000 kW operating in near-coastal waters you must complete:

- At least 24 months sea service on ships ≥375 kW propulsion power, of which at least 12 months was while holding a Marine Engine Driver Grade 1 NC or unrestricted Marine Engine Driver Grade 1 Certificate of Competency, and
- Approved program of study that meets the standards specified in STCW Code section A-III/3.

How do I keep this certificate?

To revalidate your certificate you must:

- Hold a valid Certificate of Medical Fitness; and
- Have completed the course – Security Awareness Training (please note, this training needs only be completed once in a seafarers career and does not need to be repeated); and
- Have seagoing service performing functions appropriate to the certificate they hold, for a period of at least:
 - a) 12 months in total during the preceding 5 years before application; or
 - b) 3 months in total during the preceding 6 months prior to revalidating.
 - c) Have completed an approved revalidation course appropriate for your certificate within 12 months before applying to revalidate; or
 - d) Have completed an oral exam and approved short courses that AMSA considers equivalent; or
 - e) Have performed duties and functions and approved courses that AMSA considers equivalent.

On completion of the seagoing service, you should:

- Obtain a letter(s) from your employer(s) confirming sea service and stating that you have actively participated in the mandatory abandon ship and fire drills required by SOLAS as well as scheduled drills required by the on board Safety Management System (see sample template letter). A copy of the letter should be submitted with the application (you should keep the original); and
- Complete continued competence refresher training for the STCW short courses in Advanced Fire Fighting and Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than Fast Rescue Boats in the previous 5 years (refer to MO 72 Schedule)

If you **DO NOT HAVE** at least the specified seagoing service mentioned above, you will be required to complete Advanced Fire Fighting and Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than Fast Rescue Boats in full and one of the revalidation options c, d or e shown.

Please note: There are three types of continued competence courses. Please ensure you complete the continued competence (Deck/Engineer officers and Chief integrated ratings).

How to Apply for Certificate of Competency Initial Issue/Revalidation (select as required)

- Complete a Certificate of competency application form 419 online or download a pdf version and then complete it.
- Complete all sections of the form.
- Download a pdf version of the form to generate your barcode.
- Print the form.
- Attach copies of all required documents.
- Sign the declaration.
- Submit your application and pay a fee at an AMSA-contracted Australia Post outlet.
- Provide proof of identity when you lodge your application.

AMSA may request reasonable evidence to confirm or verify any of the information provided as part of the application.

Please note:

- All certificates and training must comply with STCW;
- All training courses and training programs must be approved by AMSA; and
- All sea service must be documented.

Progress of application

If you submit an incomplete application, AMSA will contact you for further information. If you fail to provide the requested information within 60 days, AMSA will consider and decide your application on the information available. This may result in AMSA deciding to cancel the application.

More Information

Seafarer Certification Guidance containing additional information on CoC, sea service requirements and task books, can be obtained from the AMSA website at www.amsa.gov.au.

Note: If there is an inconsistency between this document and previously issued documents about the subject matter, this document supersedes information found in previous documents dealing with these matters.

AMSA may request reasonable evidence to confirm or verify any of the information provided as part of the application.