CHAPTER 405. PILOTS AND PILOTAGE

§ 405.1. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

   Incapacity—The inability on the part of a person to perform required duties, whether due to professional deficiencies, physical disability, mental incapacity or any combination of these.

   License—A license to exercise the profession of a pilot granted by the Commission.

405-1
Misconduct—Human behavior which violates some formal, duly established rule, such as the common law, the general maritime law, or Commission regulations. In the absence of such a rule, “misconduct” is human behavior which a reasonable person would consider to constitute a failure to conform to the standard of conduct which is required in the light of all the existing facts and circumstances.

Negligence—The commission of an act which a reasonable prudent person of the same station, under the same circumstances, would not commit or the failure to perform an act which a reasonably prudent person of the same station, under the same circumstances, would not fail to perform.

§ 405.2. [Reserved].

Source


§ 405.3. Application for licensure or apprenticeship.

An applicant for initial issuance of a pilot’s license, for renewal of a pilot’s license or for appointment as an apprentice shall submit an application on a form provided by the Commission. Forms may be obtained from the Department of State, 302 North Office Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120 or by calling (717) 787-6802.

Source


§ 405.4. Examination for sixth-class license.

(a) The Commission will designate at least three first-class pilots to conduct or develop an oral or written examination of an applicant for a sixth-class pilot’s license for the purpose of ascertaining the applicant’s fitness to perform the duties of a pilot. The Commission will fix the date, time, manner and place of the examination.

(b) Applicants for a sixth class license shall pass an initial written examination that is comprised of the following four parts:

1. Rules of the road.
2. Chart work.
3. Shiphandling and anchoring.
4. Local knowledge.

(c) A passing grade on the parts in subsection (b)(1) and (2) is 90%, and a passing grade on the parts in subsection (b)(3) and (4) is 80%. The written examinations will consist of at least 50 questions on each part except chart work. Applicants who do not attain a passing score on any part of the initial exam shall

405-2
be given another written examination on that part that the applicant did not pass. If an applicant fails to pass the second written examination on any part, the applicant shall be given a third written examination on that part that the applicant did not pass. When an applicant is unable for a medical reason, such as dyslexia, to successfully pass two different written examinations, the Commission may approve an oral administration of the examination. After three examinations, the Commission may determine if additional examination opportunities will be provided to any applicant. The examination for a sixth-class pilot’s license may consist of the following topics:

1. Inland and pilot rules.
2. Aids to navigation.
3. Courses, distances and distances passed abeam at change of course points between given points.
4. Important and essential cable areas.
5. Dredged channel widths and depths.
6. Bridge signals, widths, regulations and closing periods.
7. Ship handling, docking problems, seamanship by actual observation, use of tow boats and anchors.
8. Regulations of the Commission.
9. Anchorage locations.
10. Duties of a pilot.
11. Relationship between master and pilot.
12. Practical operation and use of marine radar, including use of maneuvering board.
13. Currents and tides.
14. Dock headings, lengths, depths of water alongside, pier locations and berth numbers.
16. Prohibited areas, restricted areas, explosive anchorages.
17. Chart knowledge, including chart symbols and abbreviations.
18. Use of navigational and bridge instruments.
19. Engine order and rudder commands for the following:
   (i) United States Merchant vessels.
   (ii) United States Naval vessels.
   (iii) Foreign flag merchant vessels.
20. Ranges for determining error in channel ranges.

(d) Each oral examination shall be tape-recorded, and the original copy of the recording shall be filed with the Commission as part of its permanent records. If a written examination is given, the original copy of the written examination shall be filed with the Commission as part of its permanent records.
§ 405.5. Classifications of pilots.
For classifications of pilots, see section 17 of the act of March 29, 1803 (P. L. 542, 4 Sm. L. 67) (55 P. S. § 42).

Source

§ 405.6. [Reserved].

Source
The provisions of this § 405.6 reserved July 5, 2002, effective July 6, 2002, 32 Pa.B. 3211. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (229976).

§ 405.7. Qualifications for license.

(a) An applicant for the initial issuance of a pilot’s license in any class shall:
   (1) Except for first-time applicants for a sixth class license, have served at
       least 1 year in each of the license classes below the class of license applied for.
   (2) Have complied with subsection (d).
   (3) Have passed a physical examination within 120 days of the date of
       application based on the requirements of § 405.8 (relating to physical exami-
       nation qualifications), as evidenced by a physician’s statement. As proof of a
       physical examination, apprentices and pilots shall submit the current or succes-
       sor form of the “Merchant Mariner Credential Medical Evaluation Report” of
       the United States Coast Guard. Physical examinations may also be ordered by
       the Commission for any pilot or applicant at any time that there is cause to
       believe that the physical condition of the pilot or applicant may be so impaired
       as to impact the pilot or applicant’s ability to discharge his duties.
   (4) Have participated in a program of random drug testing during the pre-
       ceeding calendar year that meets the standards of Coast Guard regulations under
       46 CFR Part 16 (relating to chemical testing). The random drug testing shall
       be performed by a testing agency satisfactory to the Commission. The testing
       agency conducting this random drug testing shall submit to the Commission
       documentation of the results immediately for any pilot who tests positive. The
       testing agency conducting this random drug testing shall submit to the Com-
       mission documentation of the results for all other pilots prior to March 1 of
       each year.
(5) Have been qualified as a radar observer, as evidenced by one of the following:
   (i) A radar observer endorsement on a current Federal pilot’s license.
   (ii) A certificate issued by a Coast Guard-approved authority reflecting that the certificateholder satisfactorily completed a course of instruction for radar observers, within 5 years of the date of application.
(6) Have completed a Commission-approved course in bridge resource management within 5 years of the date of application or renewal.
(7) Have completed a Commission-approved course in automatic radar plotting aids (ARPA) once in a pilot’s career.
(8) Post a surety bond that satisfies the requirements of § 405.13 (relating to bonding).
(9) Pay the required license fee, as specified in § 405.15 (relating to initial license and license renewal fee).
(10) Hold and maintain an active Federal first-class pilot’s license and endorsement for the routes to be traversed, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.
(b) In addition to meeting the requirements of subsection (a), a first-time applicant for a first-class pilot’s license shall have completed 40 hours of Commission-approved continuing education in navigation, ship handling or related topics within the preceding 5 years. Courses in the required areas of radar observer, ARPA and bridge resource management may count towards the 40-hour total. The Commission will approve the education facilities that qualify to provide this education.
(c) In addition to meeting the requirements of subsection (a), an applicant for a sixth-class pilot’s license shall score a passing grade or better on an examination, as provided in § 405.4(b) (relating to examination for sixth-class license). Prior to taking the examination, the applicant shall:
   (1) Be at least 21 years of age.
   (2) Be within 3 months of completing a Commission-approved apprenticeship.
   (3) Have acquired a current Federal pilot’s license for the Delaware River issued by the Coast Guard.
(d) In addition to meeting the requirements of subsection (a), applicants for a pilot’s license:
   (1) Shall have piloted at least 52 vessels during the preceding license period, if the applicant is a current license-holder, unless waived by the Commission under paragraph (2).
   (2) May seek a waiver from the Commission of the requirement of paragraph (1), in whole or in part, for illness, disability or other good cause that prevents a pilot from piloting the required number of vessels. If a waiver is granted, the Commission may condition the issuance of the license on the applicant’s completion of refresher trips up or down the river as may be nec-
necessary to ensure that the applicant is familiar with current conditions along the route. Refresher trips shall be made in the company of a first-class pilot.

Authority

The provisions of this § 405.7 amended under section 4 of the act of March 29, 1803 (P. L. 542, 4 Sm.L. 67) (55 P.S. § 31); and section 2504-B(4) of The Administrative Code of 1929 (71 P.S. § 670.2(4)).

Source


Cross References

This section cited in 4 Pa. Code § 405.12 (relating to renewal of license).

§ 405.8. Physical examination qualifications.

The physical qualifications for a pilot or apprentice are as follows:

1. Visual acuity of 20/30 in one eye and 20/80 in the other—correctable to 20/20 and 20/30, respectively—and normal color perception.

2. Hearing acuity to the extent of correctly repeating, with eyes closed, words or numbers spoken by the examiner in an ordinary conversational tone of voice from a distance of 20 feet. Each ear shall be tested separately; the ear being tested shall be turned in the direction of the examiner while the other ear is plugged.

3. The absence of any medical condition that may directly affect one’s ability to pilot a ship safely, as noted on the current or successor form of the “Merchant Mariner Credential Medical Evaluation Report” of the United States Coast Guard. A pilot shall report to the Commission concerning the pilot’s request for a waiver under 46 CFR 10.215(g) (relating to medical and physical requirements) from the United States Coast Guard for any medical condition, as well as the results of a waiver request. The initial report to the Commission shall be made at the same time that the waiver request is made to the United States Coast Guard. A copy of the United States Coast Guard’s decision on the waiver request shall be provided to the Commission within 5 business days of the pilot’s receipt of the waiver decision.

Authority

The provisions of this § 405.8 amended under section 4 of the act of March 29, 1803 (P. L. 542, 4 Sm.L. 67) (55 P.S. § 31); and section 2504-B(4) of The Administrative Code of 1929 (71 P.S. § 670.2(4)).

Source

§ 405.9. Apprentices.

(a) Apprentice qualifications. An applicant for an apprenticeship as a pilot shall:

(1) Be of good moral character. The Commission may use any of the following methods to determine moral character:
   (i) Letters of reference.
   (ii) Questions regarding the criminal record of the applicant on application forms.
   (iii) Relevant information within the possession of the United States Coast Guard such as any action taken against the applicant’s Coast Guard license, if applicable.
(2) Have acquired one of the following:
   (i) A baccalaureate degree from a recognized and certified college or university or from a maritime academy operated by the United States or any state.
   (ii) A Coast Guard-issued license to serve as a third mate on all oceans aboard vessels of 1,600 tons, or a higher class of license.
(3) Have passed a physical examination within 6 months of the date of application based on the requirements of § 405.8 (relating to physical examinations), as evidenced by a physician’s statement.

(b) Conduct of apprenticeship. An apprenticeship shall provide the theoretical education and supervised practical experience required for licensure as a sixth-class pilot and shall be conducted as follows:

(1) Every apprentice shall serve an apprenticeship of 4 years, except that an apprentice who, at the time of appointment, holds at least a third mate’s license under subsection (a)(2)(ii) need be an apprentice no longer than 3 years.
(2) The theoretical aspect of an apprenticeship shall cover, but not be limited to, the topics in § 405.4 (relating to examination for license).
(3) An apprentice shall make at least 500 trips up or down the river in vessels with a pilot licensed by Pennsylvania or Delaware.
(4) The pilots who train an apprentice shall maintain a record of each trip on the apprentice’s weekly activity record with the joint Pennsylvania/Delaware Apprentice Pilot Training Program Administrator. Each apprentice’s weekly activity record shall include: the date of the trip, the name of the vessel, where the trip began and ended and other information requested by the Commission. At least one pilot who trains an apprentice shall also conduct an evaluation of each apprentice’s performance on at least a quarterly basis, except during the first two quarters of the apprentice’s program, and shall file the evaluation with the Joint Pennsylvania/Delaware Apprentice Pilot Training Program Administrator.
(5) The Joint Pennsylvania/Delaware Apprentice Pilot Training Program Administrator shall file summary reports with the Commission at each meeting on the activities and performance of the Pennsylvania apprentices in the apprentice program.

Source

§ 405.10. Term of license.
A license shall be for a term of 1 year, subject to renewal by the Commission.

Source

§ 405.11. Nondiscrimination.
The Commission will comply with applicable State and Federal laws prohibiting discrimination in licensing or apprenticeship opportunities. A person will not be denied a license, refused an apprenticeship indenture, refused sponsorship for a pilot’s license or discriminated against in the provision of pilotage services because of race, religion, national origin, sex or age.

Source

§ 405.12. Renewal of license.
(a) An applicant for renewal of a pilot’s license in any class shall:
(1) Have satisfied the requirements of § 405.7(a)(1)—(6), (8) and (10) (relating to qualifications for license).
(2) Pay the required renewal fee, as specified in § 405.15 (relating to initial license and license renewal fee).
(b) In addition to meeting the requirements of subsection (a), an applicant for renewal of a first-class pilot’s license shall have completed 40 hours of Commission-approved continuing education in navigation, ship handling or related topics within the preceding 5 years. Courses in the required areas of radar observer, automatic radar plotting aids (ARPA) and bridge resource management may count towards the 40-hour total. The Commission will approve the education facilities that qualify to provide this education.
(c) Failure to satisfy any of the requirements of § 405.7(a)(1)—(6), (8) and (10) may result in the license not being renewed by the Commission until receipt of documentation to assure compliance with the requirement in question.

A license will not be granted until the person applying has given bond, with one sufficient surety to the Commission in the sum of $500 conditioned for the true and faithful performance of the duties and services required by this part and that he may not aid or assist in defrauding the revenue of the United States or of the Commonwealth and that he will deliver the license when required by the Commission in pursuance of this part.

Cross References
This section cited in 4 Pa. Code § 405.7 (relating to qualifications for license).

§ 405.14. [Reserved].

Source

§ 405.15. Initial license and license renewal fee.

The fee for initial issuance of a license and for annual renewal of a license is $200.

Source

Cross References
This section cited in 4 Pa. Code § 405.7 (relating to qualifications for license); and 4 Pa. Code § 405.12 (relating to renewal of license).

§ 405.16. [Reserved].

Source
The provisions of this § 405.16 reserved July 5, 2002, effective July 6, 2002, 32 Pa.B. 3211. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (229978) and (229979).
§ 405.17. [Reserved].

Source

§ 405.18. [Reserved].

Source

§ 405.19. Allowing pilots to be taken off.
(a) It shall be the duty of every master or commander of a ship or vessel outward-bound from the port to remain 24 hours after his arrival at the capes to give to the pilot on board the ship or vessel an opportunity to be taken out.
(b) If the master or commander of the ship or vessel refuses to give the opportunity specified in subsection (a) and if the same can be done without endangering the vessel, the master, owner or consignee of the ship or vessel shall forfeit and pay to the pilot, his executors or administrators any sum not exceeding $800, to be recovered in any court of record in which the same may be sued for, by action of debt or otherwise.

§ 405.19a. Docking, undocking and anchoring of vessels.
When a vessel which has taken aboard a state-licensed pilot is docking, undocking or anchoring, the state-licensed pilot shall remain on the bridge, attentive to duty, until the vessel has at least one ship’s line secured to the dock or until the vessel is anchored properly and firmly within a designated anchorage area or until the state-licensed pilot is discharged at the pilot station area upon the vessel’s departure to sea. This section does not prohibit the master of a vessel from employing the services of a docking master.

Source

§ 405.20. Pilot’s report.
Every pilot who pilots a ship or vessel to the port shall make a report in writing thereof to the Commissioners.

§ 405.21. Accident reports.
(a) Written report. A pilot involved in a marine accident while on duty shall submit a written report of the accident within 5 days of the accident to the Commission at the address or fascimile number listed at the issuance of each license or license renewal notice if the accident results in one of the following:

405-10
(1) Actual physical damage to property in excess of $1,500.
(2) Material damage affecting the seaworthiness or efficiency of a vessel.
(3) Stranding or grounding.
(4) Loss of life.
(5) Injury causing a person to remain hospitalized in excess of 72 hours.

(b) Telephonic report. In addition to submitting a written report under subsection (a), a pilot involved in a marine accident while on duty shall make a telephonic report of the accident to the Commission to telephone numbers listed at the issuance of each license or on the annual license renewal notice within 24 hours of the accident if the accident results in one of the following:

(1) Loss of life.
(2) Collision or grounding.
(3) Oil spill.

(c) Contents of report. An accident report, whether written or telephonic, shall set forth the following:

(1) Vessels and objects involved in the accident.
(2) Location, date and time of the accident.
(3) Weather and sea conditions when the accident occurred.
(4) Events and circumstances leading to the accident.
(5) Nature of the accident.
(6) Nature of loss or damage resulting from the accident.

(d) Coast Guard Report. A pilot may submit a copy of a completed Coast Guard Report of Vessel Casualty or Accident Form, along with any attachments to satisfy the requirements of subsections (a) and (c).

Source

The provisions of this § 405.21 amended July 5, 2002, effective July 6, 2002, 32 Pa.B. 3211. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (229979) to (229980).

§§ 405.22—405.26. [Reserved].

§§ 405.27—405.29. [Reserved].

Source

The provisions of these §§ 405.27—405.29 reserved July 5, 2002, effective July 6, 2002, 32 Pa.B. 3211. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (229980) to (229982).

§ 405.30. Compensation.

(a) In case a pilot, having charge of a vessel and while conducting such vessel, be detained by order of the master, owner or consignee of the vessel, by ice, or by any other unavoidable circumstance not personal to himself, the pilot shall receive compensation for such detention at the rate of $3.00 per day for each and every day so detained, commencing at a period of 24 hours from the time the detention first occurred.
(b) If any first-class pilot, having a boat attending him, shall be carried to sea in any ship or vessel contrary to his inclination, by stress of weather or other unavoidable accident, the master, owner or consignee of such ship or vessel shall pay to such pilot, his executors, or administrators the same wages as the master of such vessel receives until the return of such pilot to the Capes or, in case the pilot dies while so absent, until the time of his death. If any second-class pilot shall be carried off as provided in this subsection, the wage scale shall be that of the first mate of the vessel. If any third-class or fourth-class pilot shall be carried off as provided in this subsection that wage scale shall be that of the seamen of the vessel. If any pilot, not having a boat attending him, shall be carried to sea as provided in this subsection, he shall be paid 1/2 the wages he would have been entitled to had a boat been attending.

(c) If any inward-bound ship or vessel, having a pilot on board, shall be prevented by ice or by any other cause from proceeding to the port and shall be compelled to proceed to some other port or place not in the bay and River, the pilot shall be entitled to receive and recover from the owner or consignee of such ship or vessel full pilotage as if he had conducted such ship or vessel to the port, and the pilot shall also receive the sum of 8¢ for each and every mile he shall travel to his usual place of abode.

§ 405.31. [Reserved].

Source


§ 405.32. Disputes.

(a) In all cases when extraordinary services have been rendered by any pilot, the Commissioners will, in case the parties cannot agree, determine the compensation to be allowed for such services after hearing the dispute.

(b) Upon receipt of written request from the pilot clearly stating the facts of the extraordinary services within 30 days of the completion of such service, the Commission will give notice to both parties of the time and place of hearing such dispute.

§ 405.33. [Reserved].

Source

The provisions of this § 405.33 reserved July 5, 2002, effective July 6, 2002, 32 Pa.B. 3211. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (229983) to (229984).

§ 405.34. Misconduct.

(a) Whenever the Commission has reason to believe that any pilot has committed an act of misconduct, negligence or incapacity, the Commissioners will
appoint a time and place of hearing of which due notice will be given the pilot, and, upon due proof being made thereof to the Commissioners, they will fine the pilot in any sum not exceeding the amount of the pilotage of the ship or vessel to which the damage shall have happened or suspend the pilot for any term which the Commissioners may deem proper.

(b) A person may submit a written complaint to the Commission charging and specifying misconduct, negligence or incapacity of a pilot. The complaint shall state the following:

1. The basis for Commission jurisdiction.
2. The date and place of the offense.
3. The facts constituting the offense.

(c) In every case of suspension, the pilot shall deliver his license to the Commissioners until the time of suspension expires.

§ 405.35. Intoxication.

(a) Upon satisfactory proof being made to the Commissioners that any pilot, while having charge of a ship or vessel, was intoxicated, it will be the duty of the Commissioners to suspend such pilot for any term not less than 1 year; in case of the suspension, the pilot shall deliver to the Commissioners his license, to be kept by them until the time of suspension expires.

(b) Upon satisfactory proof of a second violation-intoxication while in charge of a ship or vessel, the pilot shall be deprived of his license permanently.

§ 405.36. Federal license.

(a) A pilot shall notify the Commission within 14 calendar days if the United States Coast Guard suspends or revokes a pilot’s Federal license, or if a pilot voluntarily deposits or voluntarily surrenders his Federal license with the United States Coast Guard under 46 CFR 5.201—5.205 (relating to deposit or surrender of Coast Guard credential or endorsement), thereby making the pilot’s Federal license inactive.

(b) If the United States Coast Guard suspends, revokes, or accepts the voluntary deposit or voluntary surrender of the license of a Federal pilot, the Commission may, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with 2 Pa.C.S. §§ 501—508 and 701—704 (relating to Administrative Agency Law), revoke, suspend, limit or otherwise restrict the pilot’s state license.

Authority

The provisions of this § 405.36 issued under section 4 of the act of March 29, 1803 (P.L. 542, 4 Sm.L. 67) (55 P.S. § 31); and section 2504-B(4) of The Administrative Code of 1929 (71 P.S. § 670.2(4)).

Source
