

Seafarer Recertification

Immediate Need

A surge of seafarers requiring recertification training is predicated for June and for December of 2021.

These two peaks coincide with the conclusion of the expiry date extension window provided by AMSA, and with the first cohort of seafarers who switched from the in-perpetuity STCW booklets to the 5 year expiry CoST cards back in 2016 now being due to renew them.

To avoid seafarers getting caught in a bottleneck as everyone tries to renew at once, it is vital that those needing to undertake recertification training do so sooner rather than later.

Process

The steps for renewing are straightforward, but require seafarers to select the right course and gather the necessary documents:

1. Complete the correct training course for the qualification level and amount of sea service
2. Collect the required documents
 - a. Certificate for the recertification training
 - b. Old qualification card/certificate
 - c. AMSA Medical (current at the time of application)
 - d. Written proof of sea service
3. Complete AMSA form 419 online
4. Print form 419 and submit to a participating post office

Selecting the correct course

The recertification training that is needed depends on two things:

- The seafarer's qualification (CoST, IR, CIR etc), and
- Whether the seafarer meets the AMSA sea service requirement to participate in the short 'refresher' course, or if they will be required to participate in the longer 'revalidation' course.

The sea service requirements to qualify for the refresher are:

- 12 months within the last 5 years
- 3 months within the last 6 months

NB – AMSA assesses the two periods of sea service from the date that the application is submitted by the seafarer. It is critical that the seafarer be sure they have enough sea service to meet requirements if they are doing the refresher course.

Where/Cost/Duration?

State	Institute	Location	Courses offered			
			CoST Refresher 2 days - approx \$1,100	CoST Revalidation 5 days - approx \$1,600	IR COP Refresher 2 days - approx \$1,450	IR COP Revalidation 7-8 days - \$3.8-4.8k
NSW	TAFE NSW Ultimo	Sydney (Ultimo)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	TAFE NSW Hunter	Newcastle	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
WA	ERGT	Perth (Jandakot/Fremantle)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Qld	GBRIMC	Cairns	Yes	No	Yes	No
	ECA Maritime College	Brisbane	Yes	Yes	No	No
	Maritime Training Centre	Nambour	Yes	Yes	No	No
Tas	AMC Search	Launceston	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Vic	ERGT	Melbourne (Altona)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
SA	AMFA	Adelaide	Yes	Yes	No	No
NT	ERGT	Darwin	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

This list is not exhaustive, there may be additional training providers that can be found through an internet search - especially for the CoST refresher training as this requires less infrastructure to deliver.

Please note: There are currently only 3 providers of the IR revalidation training for seafarers who don't have the minimum seatime for the shorter course. They are located in Sydney, Perth, and Launceston.