



Commandant
United States Coast Guard

2100 Second St., S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001
Staff Symbol: G-OCX
Phone: (202) 267-1001

COMDTINST M16794.54

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION M16794.54

Subj: AUXILIARY BOAT CREW QUALIFICATION GUIDE, VOLUME III:
PWC OPERATOR

- Ref: (a) Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual, COMDTINST M16798.3 (series)
- (b) Auxiliary Boat Crew Training Manual, COMDTINST M16794.51 (series)
- (c) Boat Crew Seamanship Manual, COMDTINST M16114.5 (series)
- (d) Auxiliary Vessel Examination Manual, COMDTINST M16796.2 (series)

1. PURPOSE. This Guide establishes minimum performance standards for qualification as an Auxiliary Personal Watercraft (PWC) operator and establishes policy for operating Auxiliary personal watercraft facilities on Coast Guard missions.
2. ACTION. Area and district commanders, commanders of maintenance and logistics commands, and commanding officers of headquarters units shall be sure that the units and Auxiliarists under their command adhere to the provisions of this Instruction.
3. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. This Guide is effective immediately. District PWC qualification programs currently authorized may continue to be used through 31 December 2001. After that date, only this Guide may be used to qualify Auxiliary members as PWC operators.
4. DISCUSSION.
 - a. This Guide is part of the complete revision of the Coast Guard's family of boat crew training and qualification publications, which started with the issue of the Boat Crew Seamanship Manual, COMDTINST M16114.5B, in 1998. This is one of a series of three qualification guides (crew member, coxswain, and PWC operator) used in conjunction

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with the Boat Crew Seamanship Manual and the Auxiliary Boat Crew Training Manual to qualify Auxiliary members in the Boat Crew Program. This Guide establishes the position of a PWC operator, a new position in the Auxiliary Boat Crew Program. Certified PWC operators are authorized to operate Auxiliary PWC facilities under Coast Guard patrol orders.

- b. Because the PWC operator is a new qualification in the Auxiliary Boat Crew Program, this Guide also establishes policies for acceptance of PWCs as operational facilities and for use of PWC facilities on Coast Guard missions. These policies are found in Appendix B of the Guide. These policies will be incorporated into the next change to the Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual and the Auxiliary Vessel Examination Manual.

5. PROCEDURES.

- a. Auxiliarists who are currently in training under a district-authorized qualification program may continue to train and be qualified under those programs through 31 December 2001. After that date, only this Guide may be used to train and qualify members as PWC operators.
- b. Auxiliarists who are currently certified as a PWC operator under a district program may continue to use that qualification. They must complete their next annual currency in accordance with this Guide.

6. FORMS AVAILABILITY. All forms required by this Guide may be ordered from the Auxiliary National Supply Center.