

SEAFARER MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

DR. MD. MIZANUR RAHMAN
M.B.B.S
479, DIT Road, Malibagh, Dhaka
Authorized by D.O.S.
Registration No. A-13508
Name & Signature Authorized Practitioner

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MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

All applicants for an officer certificate, Seafarer's Identification and Record Book or certification of special qualifications shall be required to have a physical examination reported on this Medical Form completed by a certificated physician. The completed medical form must accompany the application for officer certificate, application for seafarer's identity document, or application for certification of special qualifications. This physical examination must be carried out not more than 24 months prior to the date of making application for an officer certificate, certification of special qualifications or a seafarer's book. The examination shall be conducted in accordance with a International Labour Organization World Health Organization, *Guidelines for Conducting Pre-sea and Periodic Medical Fitness Examinations for Seafarer's (ILO/WHO/D.2/1997)*. Such proof of examination must establish that the applicant is in satisfactory physical and mental condition for the specific duty assignment undertaken and is generally in possession of all body faculties necessary in fulfilling the requirements of the seafaring profession.

In conducting the examination, the certified physician should, where appropriate, examine the seafarers previous medical records (including vaccinations), and information on occupational history, noting any diseases, including alcohol or drug-related problems and/or injuries. In addition, the following minimum requirements shall apply:

- (a) Hearing
 - All applicants must have hearing unimpaired for normal sounds and be capable of hearing a whispered voice in better ear at 15 feet (4.57 m) and in poorer ear at 5 feet (1.52 m).
- (b) Eyesight
 - Deck officer applicants must have (either with or without glasses) at least 6/6 [20/20](1.00) vision in one eye and at least 6/12 [20/40](0.50) in the other. If the applicant wears glasses, he must have vision without glasses of at least 6/45 [20/150] (0.13) in both eyes. Deck officer applicants must also have normal colour perception and be capable of distinguishing the colours red, green, blue and yellow.
- (c) Dental
 - Seafarers must be free from infections of the mouth cavity or gum.
- (d) Blood Pressure
 - An applicant's blood pressure must fall within an average range, taking age into consideration.
- (e) Voice
 - Deck/Navigational officer applicants and Radio officer applicants must have speech which is unimpaired for normal voice communication.
- (f) Vaccinations
 - All applicants shall be vaccinated according to the requirements indicated in the WHO publication, International Travel and Health, Vaccination Requirements and Health Advice, and shall be given advice by certified physician on immunizations. If new vaccinations are given, these shall be recorded.
- (g) Diseases or Conditions
 - Applicants afflicted with any of the following diseases or conditions shall be disqualified; epilepsy, insanity, senility, alcoholism, tuberculosis, acute venereal disease or neurosyphilis, AIDS, and/or the use of narcotics. Applicants diagnosed with, suspected of, or exposed to any communicable disease transmittable by food shall be restricted from working with food or in food-related areas until symptom-free for at least 48 hours.
- (h) Physical Requirements
 - Applicants for able seaman, bosun, GP-1, ordinary seaman and junior ordinary seaman must meet the physical requirements for a deck/navigational officer's certificate.
 - Applicants for fireman/watertender, oiler/motorman, pumpman, electrician, wiper, tankman and survival craft/rescue boat crewman must meet the physical requirements for an engineer officer's certificate.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

An applicant who has been refused a medical certificate or has had a limitation imposed on his/her ability to work, shall be given the opportunity to have an additional examination by another medical practitioner or medical referee who is independent of the shipowner or of any organization of shipowners or seafarers. Medical examination reports shall be marked as and remain confidential with the applicant having the right of a copy to his/her report. The medical examination report shall be used only for determining the fitness of seafarer for work and enhancing health care.

DETAILS OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION

(To be completed by examining physician, alternatively, the examining physician may attach a form similar or identical to the model provided in appendix 1)

1. Complete physical Examination
2. Eye Sight & colour vision test
3. Pathological Examination a) CBC b) ESR c) URINE R/E & M/E d) VDRL e) Chest X-ray

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