

Cruising Instructor - requirements

Cruising Instructors must hold an RYA Yachtmaster Offshore (or Ocean) with commercial endorsement prior to attending an instructor training course. They must continue to hold a valid commercial endorsement for their Instructor certificate to remain valid.

The official requirements can be found here:

<https://www.rya.org.uk/training/professional-qualifications/commercial-endorsements>

How do you obtain the commercial endorsement:

Download and fill out the Application form here:

<https://white-wake.com/joining-instructions/>

A number of certificates are required:

- Your original RYA Yachtmaster certificate
- Your Professional Practices and Responsibilities certificate
- Your original, completed medical ML5 or ENG1, or any other that is recognised by the RYA
- A copy of your RYA Basic Sea Survival certificate or STCW Personal Survival Techniques
- A copy of your RYA Marine Radio SRC Certificate or other acceptable GMDSS Marine Radio Operator's Certificate.
- A passport sized photo with your name on the back
- The application fee

Professional Practices and Responsibilities course

It is a requirement for commercial endorsement holders to take the online Professional Practices and Responsibilities Course (PPR). This online course covers the professional practices and responsibilities you will have as a professional skipper/instructor.

The course covers:

- Commercial environment – your role in the professional maritime world
- People – the importance of keeping your skills up to date, having the right number of people and qualification and the proper management of a commercial vessel
- Vessel – the obligatory safety equipment, its maintenance and how to create and implement operating procedures and risk control.
- Purpose – making sure your boat is suitable and legal for the work you are carrying, your obligations in protecting the environment, appropriate planning and situational awareness

It is available online from many providers at very reasonable cost. For example:

<https://chieftain.training/rya-professional-practices-ppr/>

Medical ML5 or ENG1 or equivalent recognised certificate

This is a specific medical examination. You need to look up for doctors certified to carry it out, or for the national medical examination for seafarers.

Follow this link to find doctors in UK and around the world, able to issue an ENG1 certificate:

<https://www.gov.uk/seafarer-medical-certificates>

Alternatively, the Seafarer medical examination of most European countries (exceptions are Austria and Luxemburg) is accepted instead of an ENG1.

See the latest list here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1815-amendment-6-equivalent-medical-certificates>

RYA Basic Sea Survival certificate or STCW Personal Survival Techniques

You will need to provide a certificate that you have participated in a Sea Survival course, either the one from the RYA or an STCW approved one:

<https://chieftain.training/rya-mca-sea-survival/>