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## Dates for Bahamas Assessments of officer candidates

Notice to ship owners, managers, Masters, Approved Nautical Inspectors, Recognised Organisations and surveyors

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### 1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Bahamas Merchant Shipping (Training, Certification, Manning and Watch-keeping) Regulations 2011 require that all seafarers trained under the STCW Chapter II and III are to be duly certified.
- 1.2. The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978, as amended (STCW), requires that a contracting party verifies the competence of seafarers who hold certificates issued by that party.
- 1.3. This Information Notice gives notice of the **2021 dates** for written assessments for seafarers applying for a Bahamas STCW Certificate of Competency as a Deck Officer or Engineer Officer.
- 1.4. Full guidance on the eligibility requirements, assessment syllabus and assessment fees is contained in BMA Information Bulletin Nos 81 and 104, which are available to download from the BMA website ([www.bahamasmaritime.com](http://www.bahamasmaritime.com)).

### 2. Application

- 2.1. This Information Notice applies to seafarers serving or intending to serve as a Deck or Engineering Officer on board Bahamian ships and Companies providing affected seafarers to Bahamian ships.
- 2.2. Subject to a written and or oral assessment, a Bahamas STCW Certificate of Competency is issued to:
  - i. Bahamian nationals who have satisfactorily completed STCW Chapter II or III training and assessment at an approved maritime institution in The Bahamas, OR STCW Chapter II or III training at a maritime institution with whom The Bahamas has a STCW Recognition Agreement. The countries recognised by The Bahamas are listed in BMA Information Bulletin No. 121.
  - ii. Any seafarer who has satisfactorily completed STCW Chapter II or III training and assessment at an approved maritime institution in The Bahamas.

### 3. Dates for Written Assessments

- 3.1. The written assessments for a Bahamas STCW Certificate of Competency as Deck Officer or Engineer Officer will be conducted during the week commencing **22 February 2021**. If any changes in this regard they will be confirmed in due time.
- 3.2. Any seafarer wishing to be assessed during this period must submit a completed Notice of Eligibility Application Form, supporting documentation and associated fees.
- 3.3. The application form with, documentation and documentation for paid fees shall be submitted via email to [STCW@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:STCW@bahamasmaritime.com) or delivered to the BMA Nassau Office, no later than 25 January 2021, at the following address: The Bahamas Maritime Authority, Shirlaw House, 226 Shirley Street, PO Box N-4679, Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas.
- 3.4. All persons who want to sit an exam including persons who want to resit exams must notify [STCW@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:STCW@bahamasmaritime.com) with information about Notice of Eligibility. Persons who resit shall attach documentation that fees have been paid.
- 3.5. The dates for the written assessments are as follows:

**OOW Near Coastal <500 gross tonnage**

Chartwork and Practical Navigation	23 Feb. 2021	0900-1215
General Ship Knowledge	24 Feb. 2021	0900-1100
Meteorology	24 Feb. 2021	1300-1400

**OOW (Unlimited)**

Navigation	23 Feb. 2021	0900-1130
Stability and Operation	24 Nov. 2021	0900-1130

**Chief Mate (Unlimited)**

Navigation	23 Feb. 2021	0900-1200
Stability and Structure	24 Feb. 2021	0900-1200

**OOW Engineering**

Engineering Knowledge I	23 Feb. 2021	0900-1100
Engineering Knowledge II	24 Feb. 2021	0900-1100
General Engineering Science I	25 Feb. 2021	0900-1100
General Engineering Science II	26 Feb. 2021	0900-1100

- 3.6. The written assessments will be held at the Ministry of Education:  
**Tonique Williams Darling Highway**  
**yellow two-story building just east of the Bank of the Bahamas**  
**(the former Workers Wash)**

**4. Dates for Oral Assessments**

- 4.1. The oral assessments will be held at the Bahamas Maritime Office Premises in Nassau:  
**Shirlaw House, 226 Shirley Street**  
**Nassau, Bahamas**  
**PO Box N-4679**
- 4.2. The starting dates for the oral assessments in connection with the written assessments are as follows:  
  
25 February 2021 - Officer of a Navigational Watch  
01 March 2021 - Officer of an Engineering Watch
- 4.3. The orals may continue over several days depending on how many candidates have signed up for assessment.
- 4.4. It shall be noted that oral assessments may be arranged on other dates as required. These arrangements include that orals may be conducted virtually, however, the candidate needs to sit the virtual orals at the address mentioned in paragraph 4.1 above.

**5. Eligibility**

- 5.1. Eligible candidates for STCW Certificates of Competency are encouraged to apply as soon as possible and **prior to 25 January 2021**.
- 5.2. Should there be eligible candidates for certification as:

Master	STCW II/2	Unrestricted
Master	STCW II/2	Less than 3000 gross tonnage
Chief Engineer	STCW III/2	Unrestricted
Chief Engineer	STCW III/2	

Candidates are encouraged to notify the BMA as soon as possible to prove eligibility and no later than **25 January**. Arrangements for the assessments that will take place in February 2021 will be made, provided that eligible candidates apply.

**6. Enquiries**

- 6.1. Enquiries relating to the assessment or eligibility requirements should be made to the BMA Seafarers and Manning Department ([stcw@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:stcw@bahamasmaritime.com)).

**Revision History**

Version	Description of Revision
1.0	First Issue
2.0	Postponement of examinations to November 2020 due to COVID19 (section 3, 4 & 5)
2.1	Amended dates for OOW Engineering written exams (section 3), amended dates for oral exams (section 4)
3.0	Exam Dates for February 2021
3.1	Editorial amendments (new logo)