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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 2026 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 **June 2026** 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 Marine Notice No 14 and Marine Notice 050, which are available to download from the BMA website (<https://www.bahamasmaritime.com/notices/marine-notices/> )

### 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 Marine Notice No. 013.
  - ii. Any seafarer who has satisfactorily completed STCW Regulation 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 **16<sup>th</sup> June 2026**. If any changes are made 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 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026**, 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 re-sit exams, must notify [STCW@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:STCW@bahamasmaritime.com) with information about the Notice of Eligibility. Persons who re-sit 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	16 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1215
General Ship Knowledge	17 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1100
Meteorology	17 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	1300 - 1400

**OOW (Unlimited)**

Navigation	16 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1130
Stability and Operation	17 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1130

**Chief Mate (Unlimited)**

Navigation	16 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1200
Stability and Structure	17 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1200

**OOW Engineering**

Engineering Knowledge I	16 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1100
Engineering Knowledge II	17 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1100
General Engineering Science I	18 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1100
General Engineering Science II	19 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1100

**Second Engineer (Unlimited)**

Engineering Knowledge – General	16 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1200
Engineering Knowledge – Motor	17 <sup>th</sup> June. 2026	0900 - 1200

- 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**

**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. Candidates who study abroad may sit the oral assessment in the country where they study. In this case, arrangements need to be made with the training institution where they study. The assessment can only be conducted at an approved exam centre. Please contact the BMA for further information.

**Please note that online oral assessments can be arranged at any time of the year.**

- 4.3. 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 **before 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026**.
- 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

Candidates are encouraged to notify the BMA as soon as possible to prove eligibility and no later than **16<sup>th</sup> May 2026**.

**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)
3.2	Correction of typographic errors
4.0	Exam Dates for June 2021
5.0	Exam Dates for November 2021
6.0	Exam Dates for June 2022
7.0	Exam Dates for November 2022
8.0	Exam Dates for June 2023
9.0	Exam Dates for September 2023
10.0	Exam Dates November 2023
11.0	Exam Dates for June 2024
12.0	Exam Dates for November 2024
13.0	Exam Dates for June 2025
14.0	Exam Dates June 2026