



VEETEDE AMET

CIRCULAR No 5

17.03.2020 No 5-1-7/5

Proving continuous competence of crew members in emergency situation

To maritime educational and training institutions

With regard to Order No 76 of the Government of the Republic of 12 March 2020 “Declaration of an Emergency Situation in the Administrative Territory of Estonia” and Order No 77 of the Government of the Republic of 13 March 2020 “Implementation of Emergency Measures”, and on the basis of § 31 (1) and (3) of the Emergency Act, restrictions on the freedom of movement were imposed in educational establishments, discontinuing studies with physical attendance at educational institutions and continuing with distance learning as of 16 March 2020.

Based on the above, and in accordance with § 19 (6<sup>1</sup>) of the Maritime Safety Act, the requirements for proving the continuous competence of crew members who have permanent residence in the Republic of Estonia shall be altered temporarily.

Maritime educational and training institutions may continue the assessment of the continuous competence of crew members (basic safety familiarization training A-VI/1; proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats A-VI/2-1; proficiency in fast rescue boats A-VI/2-2; advanced fire-fighting A-VI/3; first aid and medical care A-VI/4) by using the curricula supplemented with possibilities of distance learning.

1. The possibilities of distance learning should ensure as lifelike an environment as possible. Assessment is made available for crew members who have performed 12 months of seagoing service in the last five years or 3 months of seagoing service in the last six months.
2. These curricula shall be coordinated with the Seafarers’ Certification Department of the Maritime Administration ([mdb@vta.ee](mailto:mdb@vta.ee); phone +372 620 5704).
3. The temporary procedure for proving continuous competence shall be applied until the end of the emergency situation.
4. On the basis of the temporary procedure, certificates shall be issued with a validity period of up to six months.
5. Upon the termination of the emergency situation, the crew members who have been issued certificates on the basis of this temporary procedure shall additionally prove their practical skills and knowledge at a maritime educational and training institution in order to be issued certificates with a validity period of up to five years.
6. A state fee laid down in the State Fees Act shall be paid for the certificates issued by the Maritime Administration. No state fee shall be paid for the certificate issued for additional proving of continuous competence specified in clause 5.

(signed digitally)

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