

**Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots  
Columbia-Willamette River Pilot Trainee Application  
Instructions and Information**

**Initial Application:**

All individuals applying for admission to the examination process for licensure as a trainee for the Columbia-Willamette River pilotage ground must submit the following documents:

1. A completed application form.
2. Documentation of at least 730 active working days as captain of towing vessels on the Columbia River and its tributaries, acquired over a minimum of three years.
3. A current valid license as master of inland or near coastal vessels of 500 Registered Gross Tons or more.
4. Documentation of graduation from high school or successful passage of high school equivalency examination.
5. A current, valid First-Class Pilot License from Tansey Point, Oregon to Ryan Point, Washington on the Columbia River, and from Kelley Point, Oregon to the Ross Island Bridge on the Willamette River.
6. A photocopy of the applicant's current and valid federal mariner's license.
7. A photocopy of the "Summary to be Completed by Medical Practitioner" (page 9) of the applicant's most recent U.S. Coast Guard (719K) physical examination report form.
8. A copy of the applicant's most recent U.S. Coast Guard Medical Certificate.
9. One of the following:
  - Employer's documentation that the applicant has been a participant in maritime employer's random drug testing program during the 90 days preceding the date of application; or
  - Results of a test performed within the preceding 30 days for the presence in the applicant of cocaine, opiates, marijuana (THC or its metabolites), amphetamines and PCP (phencyclidine). Testing must be in accordance with the U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security guidelines outlined in the Code of Federal Regulations.

10. A report (written statement) prepared by the applicant that identifies the following:
- Any positive results within the preceding 60 months of any tests for the presence in the applicant of cocaine, opiates, marijuana (THC or its metabolites), amphetamines or PCP (phencyclidine).
  - Any conviction within the preceding 60 months for any alcohol-related motor vehicle infraction.
  - A description of any maritime incidents occurring while the applicant was master, operator or otherwise directing the movement of a vessel, that resulted in either a disciplinary proceeding against the applicant's federal license or a civil penalty proceeding by the U.S. Coast Guard, and the final disposition of any such proceedings.

Only applicants who provide all the required documentation and meet all the qualifications listed under this section are eligible to continue in the trainee license application process.

*OAR 856-015-0023 provides grounds for disqualification and denial of application for not meeting these minimum qualifications.*

*OAR 856-015-0005 provides grounds for disqualifying applicants and denying applications for positive drug test results or failure to provide a truthful report.*

### **Fundamentals of State Pilotage Examination:**

Every qualified applicant may take this oral examination administered by the Board every two years. The examination may take place over the course of one or more days, depending on the number of examinees. Each examinee shall be assigned from 0 to 35 points based on the following guidelines: knowledge of the fundamentals of state pilotage; knowledge of trade and commerce on the Columbia River; poise and confidence; and other factors as may be deemed relevant by the Board.

All applicants who complete the oral examination shall be placed on the Board's Roll of Candidates. Candidates will be ranked in order from the highest scoring to the lowest scoring based on the results of the examination, plus any additional points earned under the Optional Points category.

### **Optional Points:**

Documentation for optional, additional points may be submitted at any time up to 18 months after the Board establishes the Roll of Candidates for which the applicant has most recently tested. An applicant may add up to 65 points to the applicant's oral examination score in the following areas:

**Academic:**

1. Four-year degree from an accredited Maritime Academy: 15 points.
  2. Or, two years (90 semester credit hours) of course work, or a two-year degree, from an accredited college or university program: 5 points
  3. Master's degree or PhD in a maritime or business curriculum: 5 points
- Maximum total points under this section are 20.*

**Experience and Certification:**

1. Federal pilotage endorsement on the Columbia River from Ryan Point, Washington to Pasco, Washington: 25 points.
  2. Federal pilotage endorsement on the Columbia River from Pasco, Washington to Hanford, Washington: 1 point.
  3. 1,460 or more active working days as master of towing vessels on the Columbia River and tributaries obtained over a minimum of six years: 5 points.
  4. 2,190 or more active working days as master of towing vessels on the Columbia River and tributaries obtained over a minimum of nine years: 13 points.
  5. Certified training in each of the following categories: Automatic Radar Plotting Aids, Bridge Resource Management, Emergency Medical Training, Hazardous Materials, Marine Firefighting, Oil Spill Control: 1 point each.
- Maximum total points under this section are 45.*

**Please send your completed application form and documentation to: Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots, 800 NE Oregon Street # 507, Portland, OR 97232.**