

**Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots
Pilot Apprentice Training Program Application
Information and Instructions**

Apprenticeship Description:

The Columbia River Pilots Apprenticeship Program was founded in 1995 as an alternate training opportunity for pilot applicants who do not meet the service requirements for entry into the traditional Columbia River Pilot Training Program.

The Apprenticeship Program is a very rigorous program requiring a significant commitment of time and energy. Typically, apprentices must be available to train onboard vessels 25 days per month. Apprentices are required to train both days and nights and can be expected to be away from home for up to 48 hours at a time. The apprenticeship training takes a minimum of three years to complete. After successful completion of the Apprenticeship Program, the apprentice becomes eligible to enter the Columbia River Pilots Training Program. The Columbia River Pilots Training Program requires an additional two and one-half years of training and piloting on limited licenses before becoming an Unlimited State-Licensed Pilot.

Requirements of the Apprenticeship Program:

A successful candidate must have a minimum of two years of actual experience as an officer in charge of a navigation watch while holding one or more of the following licenses:

- Master of Towing Vessels (Inland Waterways)
- Master of Towing Vessels (Ocean)
- Master, Vessels Greater than 1,600 Tons
- Master, Vessels 1,600 Tons or Less
- Chief or Second Mate on Vessels Greater than 1,600 Tons

Apprentice training requirements include:

- 500 vessel movements on the Columbia River System between the ports of Astoria and Portland/Vancouver and 500 vessel movements between any two points on the pilotage grounds, under the supervision of state-licensed pilots.
- Up to 30 days of industry-related training based upon the Training Course Monitor's evaluation of the apprentice's skills and training needs.
- More details on traditional training requirements for the Columbia & Willamette River Pilotage Ground can be found of the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilot's website (<http://oregon.gov/PUC/BMP>).

Stipend:

In order to assist with living expenses, a stipend of \$2,500 per month is provided to apprentices training full-time. Training full-time is defined as training on board vessels a minimum of 20 days per month. The apprentice is also provided with the use of company cars and Pilot Station in Astoria. No health benefits are offered.

Available Position:

Notifications of future available positions will be posted as they become available.

Upon completion of training, the successful candidate will become one of a limited number of maritime professionals entrusted to guide large ocean vessels over 100 miles of the Columbia River as it winds its way from its mouth at Astoria, Oregon through mountainous terrain to the ports of Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, Washington.

Application Process:

All individuals desiring to be selected for the Pilot Apprentice training program must submit:

1. A completed application form;
2. A copy of page 9 of the applicant's most recent U.S. Coast Guard (719K) physical examination report form;
3. A copy of the applicant's most recent U.S. Coast Guard Medical Certificate;
4. One of the following:
 - Proof the applicant has been a participant in maritime employer's random drug testing program during the 90 days preceding the date of application; or
 - Negative 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. A positive drug test must be reported to the Board.
5. A 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.

Applicants are ranked by the following point system:

- A. Academic: Completion of a four-year course of study and receipt of a degree from an accredited maritime academy will be awarded 25 points.

- B. Previous Maritime Experience - Applicants shall be awarded points up to a maximum of 45 based on federal licensure and a minimum of two years of actual experience as an officer in charge of a navigation watch while holding one or more of the following licenses:
 - 1. Master of Towing Vessels (Inland Waterways)
 - 2. Master of Towing Vessels (Ocean)
 - 3. Master, Vessels Greater than 1,600 Tons
 - 4. Master, Vessels 1,600 Tons or Less
 - 5. Chief or Second Mate on Vessels Greater than 1,600 Tons

Applicants with a First Class Pilot Endorsement for Any U.S. inland waterway will be awarded 5 points.

- C. Interview Examination (maximum 25 points): Every applicant shall be interviewed by the Board of Maritime Pilots. Each person interviewed shall be assigned from 0 to 25 points.

The Board conducts periodic interview examinations and produces a ranked list of candidates from which to draw trainees when vacancies need to be filled.

Documentation of education and experience must be submitted with your application. Also include a copy of your USCG license and any certifications of specialized training.

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