

**EXAMINATION OF SECOND MATES (FOREIGN GOING) AND  
MATES (HOME TRADE)**

---

**NOTICE TO SHIPOWNERS, MASTERS AND SEAMEN**

---

“ Regulations for the Examination of Masters and Mates ” (Exn. 1) have been revised so that apprentices, cadets and midshipmen will, subject to complying with the other requirements, be able to sit the examination for a Certificate of Competency as Second Mate (foreign-going) or Mate (home trade) as soon as they have completed their qualifying service on board ship. Furthermore, such candidates will now be required to serve three-quarters of the nominal period on board ship, subject to a minimum period on board ship of  $22\frac{1}{2}$  months, instead of being required to serve for four-fifths of the nominal period on board ship away from home ports. Those who complete their qualifying service before reaching the age of twenty will be able to sit the examination as soon as they are  $19\frac{1}{2}$ , but will not be issued with their certificates until they have attained the age of twenty.

The revision will come into force on 1st January, 1963, and will apply to all indentures dated, and to all unindentured cadets and midshipmen whose sea service started, on or after 1st April, 1959. In the case of cadets, apprentices or midshipmen whose indentures are dated, or whose sea service started, between 1st January, 1959 and 31st March, 1959 the revised Regulations will apply except that four-fifths will be substituted for three-quarters.

Amendment of paragraphs 25, 48, 49 and 52 of the “ Regulations for the Examination of Masters and Mates ” (Exn. 1) (1962 edition) will therefore be necessary.

Paragraph 25 will be amended by the insertion after “ 20 years of age ” of “ (except as provided for in paragraph 48) ”.

Paragraph 48 will be deleted and the following substituted:

“ 48. *Apprentices, cadets and midshipmen.* Apprentices, cadets and midshipmen, whether bound by indentures or not, will be accepted for examination for a Certificate of Competency as Second Mate (foreign-going) or Mate (home trade) after serving on board ship for not less than three-quarters of the nominal period of four years reduced by any remissions granted under paragraphs 21, 51, 52 (as amended below), 52A, 53, and 53A, provided that a letter from the Master or Owners is produced stating that their service was satisfactorily performed during their period on board ship. In no case will a candidate be admitted to the examination until he has completed a minimum period of  $22\frac{1}{2}$  months on board ship. In the event of a candidate having completed the nominal period and being short of the necessary service on board ship, he will be required to show such additional sea service, either as a seaman or a junior officer, to make up the deficiency.

The general concession set out above cannot, however, be taken to cover the case in which, during a large part of the period, the vessel on which the candidate is serving has been laid up in port. The proportion of the period which can be accepted as qualifying service in such a case depends on the individual circumstances and each case will be considered on its merits. The Examiners will make as generous an allowance for such service as they properly can but they cannot forego the essential condition that candidates for Certificates of Competency must have sufficient experience of actual service at sea.

A candidate who has completed his qualifying service but has not reached the age of twenty may sit the examination as soon as he is 19½, but if he is successful the certificate will not be issued until he reaches the age of twenty."

Paragraph 49 will be deleted.

Paragraph 52, sub-paragraph (iii) will read as follows:

"(iii) Senior courses in navigation at technical or other similar non-residential schools which candidates attend after completing the whole of the nominal period required to qualify for examination for a Second Mate's certificate or for a Mate's (home trade) certificate; the maximum remission of sea service in these cases will be fixed at the time of approval; it will never exceed three months."

Any candidate who is in doubt about how his case will be dealt with under these new provisions should consult the local examiner in accordance with paragraph 7 of the Regulations.

Ministry of Transport,  
LONDON.

October, 1962.  
MC 57/1/0164