

**Translation from Finnish
Legally binding only in Finnish and Swedish
Ministry of Transport and Communications, Finland**

**Government Decree on Pilotage
(1385/2016)**

By decision of the Government, the following is enacted under the Pilotage Act (940/2003):

**Section 1
Purpose of the Decree**

The further provisions on Pilot Licences, Pilotage Exemption Certificates, exemptions and special requirements applicable to organisers of pilot examinations referred to in the Pilotage Act (940/2003) are issued by this Decree.

**Section 2
Granting Pilot Licences**

In addition to what is provided in section 12 of the Pilotage Act, the prerequisite for granting a Pilot Licence is that the candidate has completed the following number of training voyages, as referred to in subsection 1, paragraph 3 of the said section, on board various types of ships in the specific channel to be entered in the licence:

- 1) no less than 25 voyages in both directions of the channel;
- 2) no less than five voyages in both directions of the channel or in the direction to be entered in the licence, if the candidate has already been granted a licence for another channel.

In a channel with low traffic density, defined as a compulsory pilotage area, where fewer than 20 pilotage assignments have been completed during the preceding calendar year, no more than half the training voyages may be substituted by training voyages conducted in a ship simulator.

The candidate shall present certified documentation of his or her training voyages and the training voyages he or she has conducted in a ship simulator.

The training voyages and the pilot examination must have been completed during the 12 months preceding the practical pilotage assessment.

The Master's Certificate, referred to in section 12, subsection 1, paragraph 1 of the Pilotage Act, need not be presented in case the candidate has already been granted a Pilot Licence for another channel and he or she is applying for a licence for yet another channel.

Section 3

Renewing Pilot Licences

A Pilot Licence may be renewed for a period of no longer than five years, if the prerequisites for renewal laid down in section 12, subsection 2 of the Pilotage Act are met.

The candidate shall demonstrate his or her familiarity with the channel by presenting documentation on his or her pilotage assignments or training voyages or training voyages completed in a ship simulator as follows:

- 1) completion of at least two pilotage assignments or training voyages a year in both directions of the channel or in the direction to be entered in the licence;
- 2) completion of at least one pilotage assignment and one training voyage in a ship simulator a year in both directions of the channel or in the direction to be entered in the licence; or
- 3) no less than ten pilotage assignments during the preceding two years in both directions of the channel.

In addition, the candidate shall present a document testifying that he or she has passed the written test referred to in section 11a, subsection 1, paragraph 2 and the simulator test referred to in paragraph 3 of the Pilotage Act.

If more than five years has elapsed since the simulator test, the candidate shall, in order to retain his or her professional competence, complete simulator training instead of taking the simulator test. Training shall comprise a combination of the specific channels that the renewal concerns and include training for emergency situations. Certified documentation of training shall be presented.

When the candidate presents documentation to the effect that he or she has completed no less than eight pilotage assignments in the channel in the direction to be entered in the licence, it is sufficient for renewal of the licence that the candidate presents a document attesting successful completion of the written test referred to in section 11 a, subsection 1, paragraph 2 of the Pilotage Act.

When fewer pilotage assignments or training voyages demonstrating retained familiarity with the channel have been conducted than what is laid down in section 2, renewal of the Pilot Licence requires, in addition to the five training voyages referred to in section 2, subsection 1, paragraph 2, that the candidate presents a document attesting successful completion of the written test referred to in section 11 a, subsection 1, paragraph 2 of the Pilotage Act and the practical pilotage assessment referred to in section 11b of the Pilotage Act.

In order to demonstrate that the candidate meets the physical and mental fitness requirements for pilotage duties, he or she shall present a valid certificate of medical fitness for seafarers.

Section 4

Entries in the Pilot Licence

The channels in which the candidate has acquired the right to pilot as well as the period of validity shall be entered in the Pilot Licence.

Section 5

Granting Pilotage Exemption Certificates

In addition to what is laid down in section 14 of the Pilotage Act, the prerequisites for granting a Pilotage Exemption Certificate is that the candidate presents documentation on adequate navigation experience, as referred to in subsection 3, paragraph 1 of the said section, as follows:

- 1) in respect of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate pertaining to cargo ships:
 - a) no less than ten voyages in both directions of the channel or in the direction applied for, completed during the preceding twelve months; or
 - b) no less than five voyages in both directions of the channel or in the direction applied for, completed during the preceding twelve months, if the candidate holds a valid Pilotage Exemption Certificate for another ship in the channel,
- 2) in respect of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate pertaining to passenger ships:
 - a) no less than 30 voyages in both directions of the channel or in the direction applied for, completed during the preceding twelve months; or
 - b) no less than fifteen voyages in both directions of the channel or in the direction applied for, completed during the preceding twelve months, if the candidate holds a valid Pilotage Exemption Certificate for another ship in the channel;
- 3) for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate pertaining to tankers, referred to in section 14, subsection 1, paragraph 2 and 3 of the Pilotage Act, no less than twelve voyages in both directions of the channel or in the direction applied for, completed during the preceding twelve months.

No more than half the training voyages referred to in subsection 1, paragraphs 1 and 2 may be substituted by simulator training on board a type of ship equivalent to the ship concerned.

The candidate shall present certified documentation of the training voyages and the simulator training.

The training voyages and the pilot examination shall be completed during the twelve months preceding the practical pilotage assignment.

Section 6

Renewing Pilotage Exemption Certificates

A Pilotage Exemption Certificate may be renewed for a period of no longer than five years, if the prerequisites for renewal laid down in section 14, subsection 5 of the Pilotage Act are met.

The candidate shall demonstrate his or her familiarity with the channel by presenting written documentation on the navigation of the ship or an equivalent ship, referred to in section 14, subsection 2 of the Pilotage Act, as the master or officer of the watch in the channel or of training voyages completed in a ship simulator as follows:

1) when applying for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate for a ship, referred to in section 14 subsection 1 of the Pilotage Act, which is subject to pilotage due to its size, completion of at least two voyages a year in both directions of the channel or in the direction to be entered in the Pilotage Exemption Certificate, and one training voyage in a ship simulator using a type of ship equivalent to the ship which the application concerns, in both directions of the channel or in the direction to be entered in the certificate;

2) when applying for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate pertaining to tankers, referred to in section 14, subsection 1, paragraph 2 and 3 of the Pilotage Act, completion of at least four voyages in both directions of the channel or in the direction to be entered in the certificate.

In addition to the documentation of his or her navigation skills referred to in subsection 2, the candidate shall present a document attesting successful completion of the written test referred to in section 11a, subsection 1, paragraph 2 and the simulator test referred to in paragraph 3 of the Pilotage Act.

When the candidate presents documentation to the effect that he or she has completed no less than eight pilotage assignments in the channel in the direction to be entered in the certificate, it is sufficient for renewal of the certificate that the he or she presents a document attesting successful completion of the written test referred to in section 11a, subsection 1, paragraph 2 of the Pilotage Act.

If more than five years has elapsed since the simulator test, the candidate shall, in order to retain his or her professional skills complete simulator training instead of taking the simulator test. The training shall comprise a combination of the channels that the renewal concerns and include training for emergency situations. Certified written documentation of the training shall be presented.

When the candidate has completed fewer pilotage assignments or training voyages demonstrating retained familiarity with the channel than what is laid down in section 2, renewal of the Pilotage Exemption Certificate requires in addition to the training voyages referred to in section 5, subsection 1, paragraph 1, subparagraph b or paragraph 2, subparagraph b that the candidate presents a document attesting successful completion of the written test referred to in section 11a, subsection 1, paragraph 2 and the practical pilotage assessment referred to in section 11b of the Pilotage Act.

Section 7

Entries in the Pilotage Exemption Certificate

The ships and the channels that the Pilotage Exemption Certificate covers as well as the period of validity of the certificate shall be entered in the Pilotage Exemption Certificate.

Section 8

Renewing exemptions

An exemption referred to in section 16 of the Pilotage Act may be renewed for a period of no longer than five years, provided that the prerequisites for renewal laid down in section 16, subsection 5 of the Pilotage Act are met.

The candidate shall demonstrate his or her familiarity with the channel(s) by presenting documentation on participation in the navigation of the ship as the master or officer of the watch in the channel(s) applied for or in a limited water area. In addition, the candidate shall present documentation attesting successful completion of the written test referred to in section 11a, subsection 1, paragraph 2 of the Pilotage Act.

The candidate shall have five months or more of navigation experience, referred to in subsection 2 above, gained during the preceding five years.

A further prerequisite for renewal of the exemption is that the candidate can present documentation on meeting the requirements of section 16, subsection 3, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Pilotage Act.

Section 9

Entries in the exemption decision

The ships and the channels covered by the exemption, the master or officer of the watch to whom the exemption has been granted, the prerequisites for exemption, laid down in section 16, subsection 4 of the Pilotage Act as well as the period of validity of the decision shall be entered in the exemption decision.

Section 10

Special requirements applicable to the organisers of pilot examinations

In order to meet the special requirements applicable to organisers of pilot examinations, training institutions and universities of applied sciences shall, in addition to what is provided in section 11d, subsection 1 of the Pilotage Act, demonstrate in the assessment referred to in section 11c, subsection 2 of the Pilotage Act that

- 1) the person responsible for pilot examinations and the training staff has teacher training qualifications suitable for the training of seafarers and experience from teaching relating to pilot examinations or have passed the examination required for a Pilot Licence or a Pilotage Exemption Certificate;
- 2) the ship simulator, referred to in section 11d, subsection 3 of the Pilotage Act, meets the requirements laid down in in the said section and the requirements of the STCW Convention on the technical characteristics and performance standards of ship simulators, and the simulator has a qualified operator;
- 3) the ship simulator, referred to in section 11d, subsection 3 of the Pilotage Act, contains up-to-date channels and ship types that are equivalent to the ships engaged on voyages in the channels concerned and there are procedures for updating the ship simulator as soon as changes are made to any compulsory pilotage areas or pilot boarding areas;
- 4) the organiser publishes tariffs for the modules forming part of the pilot examination as well as the pricing principles along with an outline of the procedures and deadlines for decisions, and information of changes in prices.

Section 11
Entry into force

This Decree enters into force on 1 January 2017.

This Decree repeals the Government Decree on Pilotage (246/2011).
