

Translation from Finnish
Legally binding only in Finnish and Swedish
Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finland

Act on certifying medical practitioners as medical practitioners authorised to conduct medical fitness examinations of seafarers
(47/2009)

By decision of Parliament, the following is enacted:

Section 1

Certifying as medical practitioner authorised to conduct medical fitness examinations of seafarers

The National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health may, on application, certify a licensed medical practitioner as a medical practitioner authorised to conduct medical fitness examinations of seafarers (hereafter referred to as "recognised medical practitioner"). The certification may only be granted if the medical practitioner in question has been authorised to practice their medical doctor's profession as an independent licensed professional in Finland and the medical practitioner in question has received training in Finland in seafarers' working conditions and health requirements.

Section 2

Obligation to take part in supplementary training

The employer of the recognised medical practitioner must ensure that the recognised medical practitioner receives adequate or at least five-yearly supplementary training in seafarers' working conditions and health requirements allowing the recognised medical practitioner to maintain their professional competence.

The supplementary training obligation also applies to recognised medical practitioners working as self-employed.

Section 3

List of recognised medical practitioners

The National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health must keep a list of recognised medical practitioners publicly available.

Section 4

Further provisions

Further provisions on the content of the application referred to in section 1 and the application procedure as well as the content, type and scope of the training referred to in section 1, and the

supplementary training referred to in section 2 may be issued by decree of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. The opinion of the Advisory Committee for Seafarer's Affairs must be requested before the Decree is adopted.

Section 5

Transitional provisions and entry into force

This Act enters into force on 1 March 2009.

Measures necessary for the implementation of this Act may be undertaken before the Act's entry into force.

This Act repeals the Decision of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health on certifying medical practitioners as medical practitioners authorised to conduct medical fitness examinations of seafarers, issued on 19 December 1997 (1250/1997).

A medical practitioner certified as a recognised medical practitioner by the Finnish Maritime Administration before the entry into force of this Act may, until further notice, practice their profession without submitting a new application.