§ 15.805 Master.

(a) There must be an individual holding an appropriate license as or a valid MMC with endorsement as master in command of each of the following vessels:

(1) Every self-propelled, seagoing documented vessel of 200 GRT and over;

(2) Every self-propelled inspected vessel;

(3) Every inspected passenger vessel;

(4) Every inspected small passenger vessel; and

(5) Every towing vessel of at least 8 meters (26 feet) or more in length must be in command of a master of towing vessels, or a mariner holding a license or MMC endorsed as master of inspected, self-propelled vessels greater than 200 GRT holding either—

(i) A completed Towing Officer’s Assessment Record (TOAR), bearing the signature of a Designated Examiner and stating that the Examiner found the candidate proficient; or

(ii) A license or MMC endorsed for master of towing vessels.

(b) On vessels subject to STCW, the individual meeting the requirement of this section must also hold an STCW endorsement as master with the appropriate tonnage for the vessel which he or she is operating, except as noted in §15.105(g) of this part for vessels on domestic near-coastal voyages.

(c) Every vessel documented under the laws of the United States, other than a vessel with only a recreational endorsement, must be under the command of a U.S. citizen.

§ 15.810 Mates.

(a) The OCMI determines the minimum number of mates required for the safe operation of inspected vessels.

(b) The minimum number of mariners holding a license or MMC officer endorsement as mate required to be carried on every inspected, self-propelled, seagoing and Great Lakes vessel, and every inspected, seagoing, passenger vessel must not be less than the following, except when reductions are authorized under paragraph (e) of this section:

(1) Vessels of 1,000 GRT or more (except MODUs)—three mates (except when on a voyage of less than 400 miles from port of departure to port of final destination—two mates).

(2) MODUs of 1,000 GRT or more:

(i) Three mates when on a voyage of more than 72 hours.

(ii) Two mates when on a voyage of more than 16 but not more than 72 hours.

(iii) One mate when on a voyage of not more than 16 hours.

(3) Vessels of 100 GRT or more but less than 1,000 GRT—two mates (except vessels of at least 100 but less than 200 GRT on voyages which do not exceed 24 hours in duration—one mate).

(4) All vessels of less than 100 GRT—one mate (except vessels on voyages not exceeding 12 hours in duration may, if the OCMI determines it to be safe, be operated without mates).

(5) An offshore supply vessel of 100 GRT (100 GT ITC if GRT is not assigned) or more, but less than 6,000 GT ITC (500 GRT if GT ITC is not assigned) as defined in §125.160 of this chapter—one credentialed mate (except when on a voyage of at least 600 miles—two credentialed mates). A voyage includes the accrued distance from the vessel’s port of departure to port of arrival and does not include stops at offshore points.

(6) An offshore supply vessel of at least 6,000 GT ITC (500 GRT if GT ITC is not assigned) as defined in §125.160 of this chapter—two credentialed mates provided that the OSV meets the requirements in 46 CFR 15.1111 (except when on a voyage of more than 600 miles—three credentialed mates). A voyage includes the accrued distance from the vessel’s port of departure to the vessel’s port of arrival. Stops at