



## Notice of Proposed Changes in The Regulations of the Alaska Board of Marine Pilots

### Proposed Regulations - FAQ

---

June 2024

#### 1. What is the purpose of the proposed regulations? What will this regulation do?

##### **12 AAC 56.025. Applications**

- The proposed regulation changes are intended to allow applicants more time to submit applications and required documents before examinations. The current deadlines require submission of applications and application requirements 60 days before the date of the examination. The proposed change will allow for submission of required documents 30 days before the date of the examination. Applications and fees will still be required to be received 60 days before the date of the examination. This will allow for faster application processing times, which will in turn provide for more marine pilots to be available for their associations.

- In addition to the changes above, negative drug test results are currently required to be conducted within 60 days before the date of the application. The proposed changes will require a negative drug test result to be conducted not more than 90 days before the date of the examination. Physical examinations are currently required to be received within 60 days before the date of the application. The proposed changes will require the physical examination to be received not more than 90 days before the date of the examination.

##### **12 AAC 56.070. Examinations**

- The change being proposed is to remove the requirement of examinations to occur at a meeting of the board, and to remove outdated examination information.

##### **12 AAC 56.080. Biennial license renewal**

- The proposed regulation change is intended to clarify the provisions relating to the required number of days a deputy marine pilot must spend piloting vessels to renew their license. The intent is to reduce the day count from 240 days to an average of five days for each calendar month licensed in the licensing period immediately preceding the licensing period for which renewal is sought. A deputy marine pilot licensed for less than 12 calendar months is exempt from this requirement.

This will allow deputy marine pilots who have worked for more than 12 calendar months the relief of having to engage in piloting vessels for 240 days, something that is likely unattainable.

**2. What are the costs to comply with the proposed regulations?**

There are no known costs to implement these changes.

**3. When will the regulations be effective?**

After the public comment deadline, comments received are compiled and given to the Board for consideration. The Board may adopt the regulations as written/publicly noticed, may amend and adopt them, choose to take no action, or may withdraw the proposed regulations in part or in its whole. After Board action, the adopted regulations go to the Department of Law (DOL) for final review/approval. DOL either approves or disapproves the regulations. Once approved by DOL, it goes to the Lt. Governor for filing. The regulations take effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the Lt. Governor.

Do you have a question that is not answered here? Please email [RegulationsAndPublicComment@alaska.gov](mailto:RegulationsAndPublicComment@alaska.gov) so it can be added.