

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



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1710  
MAR 15 2013

## MEMORANDUM

From: *M.A. Jackson*  
M.A. JACKSON, CAPT  
CG BASE Miami Beach (c)

Reply to  
Attn of: C.P. Malloy  
(305)-535-4564

To: CG CSC

Subj: WAIVER REQUEST FOR WATERCRAFT

Ref: (a) Coast Guard MWR Manual, COMDTINST M1710.13C, section 5.B.8a  
(b) Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission website

1. In accordance with reference (a), I request a waiver that all watercraft customers would have to successfully complete the U.S. Coast guard Auxiliary Safe Boaters Course prior to renting a recreational boat.

2. The Boat Florida Online Course (<http://www.boat-ed.com/florida/>) is approved by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the state agency responsible for the administration of the Florida Boater Education Card. This online boating license course adopted by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, is based on the How to Boat Smart Florida Boating Safety Course manual and was developed and printed by Boat Ed specifically for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The Boat Florida Online Course is also recognized by the United States Coast Guard as meeting the standards of the National Recreational Boating Safety Program.

a. To meet the legal requirement, the course completion certificate must have your first and last name, your date of birth and the date you successfully completed the course. You must have the certificate with you (along with a photo ID) while operating the boat. The course completion certificate can be used for up to 90 days and it is not a permanent replacement for the Boating Safety Education ID Card.

3. Non Florida residents must comply with the boating safety education requirements. However, if boat operator's have proof in their possession a completed a boater safety course or equivalency exam that meets or exceeds Florida's requirements (usually in the form of a certificate or card), they would not need to have a Florida Boating Safety Education Identification Card. Vessel operators are required to have a Boater Education Card must carry the card on board the vessel and have it available for inspection by an enforcement officer.

4. A certified and current Coxswain is exempt from this requirement. The Coxswain must present a certificate as proof.