

Boat and Personal Water Craft (PWC/Jet Ski) Licence Course Information Booklet

Taking the wheel of a friend's boat or buying your own, can be an exciting new challenge or a harrowing experience. Boat Licence testing can be fun and easy or, a stressful event! Sea School takes the stress out of getting your boat licence. Since 2002 more than 20,000 of our students have achieved a successful result.

We're a trusted and professional, registered training organisation. Our fully qualified marine trainers deliver an easy, interactive step-by-step presentation that will help you get your boat and/or PWC licence quickly. We provide more than just a course; we teach you how to operate a boat and the rules and regulations in an informative and entertaining way. Its practical boating and good fun.

How to get a Boat or PWC (Jet-ski) Licence

On July 1, 2016 the rules changed on how to obtain an initial Boat Licence, Concession or under 16 years of age licence or Personal Water Craft (PWC/Jet-ski) licence.

You must now complete 2 compulsory steps:

- **Step 1** **Practical Boating Course 3 - \$160**
Participate in a Practical Boating Lesson

- **Step 2** **Boating Knowledge Test 5 - \$45**
Undertake the Boating Knowledge Test or the
PWC Knowledge Test 6 (\$35 each)



Do I have to study before the Practical Boating Course and Boating Knowledge Test?

It's not a requirement to study beforehand however, **we highly recommend** you enrol in either our Boat Licencing Course 1 or Boat and PWC Licencing Course 2 to prepare yourself.

Trainers will cover all the rules and regulations, information about boating safety and everything you need to know to pass your Boating Knowledge Test.

What will you learn?

- Essential boating information
- Licence and registration
- Know the rules and regulations
- Safety equipment
- Sound signals and navigation lights
- Plan your voyage and get back safely
- Give way and distance off
- Navigation marks and signs
- Person overboard and hypothermia
- Manoeuvre and handle a boat
- Wind, current, waves and boat wash
- Anchoring and safe operations
- What to do in an emergency
- Raise alarms and distress signals
- Situation awareness and vessel traffic
- Water ski and jet-ski rules

- Speed zones and night safety
- Smart tips for safer boating

COURSE	SEA SCHOOL COURSE TYPE	FEE'S
1	Boat Licencing Course (includes courses 3, 4 & 5)	\$260
2	Boat and PWC Licencing Course (includes courses 3, 4, 5 & 6)	\$300
3	Practical Boating Course	\$160
4	Boating Knowledge Course	\$95
5	Boating Knowledge Test	\$45
6	PWC Knowledge Test	\$100

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Locations and bookings

Our trainers operate from various locations in and around [Sydney and selected regional centres](#).

Course times can be booked on weekdays, weeknights or weekends for individuals, small or large groups. We can also come to your venue on request; at your business, in your home or other location. Call **1300 666 416** or visit the [bookings page](#) on our website and complete the form.

Course fees must be paid **prior to course commencement**.

What to bring

- Be prepared** Bottled water or snacks/food (if participating in the Practical Boating Course 1)
- Clothing** Dependent on weather - Casual clothes, sunglasses, sunscreen, hat and wet weather gear in case it rains.
- Footwear** Deck shoes, joggers, sandshoes or work boots (no thongs or sandals)
- Identification** 100 points required. Preferred: NSW Drivers Licence. If you don't have a NSW drivers licence you are required to provide secondary identification. Also suitable is a birth certificate, or current passport with a Medicare card, or pension card.
- PWC** This additional licence, whether being undertaken on the same day or, as a PWC upgrade, **2 passport pics** requires a secondary Maritime application to be completed, and you must provide 2 passport

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photos. Write your name and date of birth on the reverse side of each photo. **NOTE** Applicants wishing to obtain a PWC (Jet-Ski) licence are required to provide evidence of a General Boat Licence or complete a Boating Knowledge Test prior to sitting the test.

Concession /under 16yrs Preferred: Birth certificate. If not available you must bring 2 forms of identification such as current passport and Medicare card. A student card is considered a secondary identification. **NOTE:** The parent/guardian must provide their identification and signatures to a trainer and sign the application before the course commences.

Eye-sight test Not required if you have an Australian drivers licence. It's required if you do not have an Australian drivers Licence, or provide an eyesight report from a qualified person.

Medical The Maritime application requires a medical disclosure for epilepsy, diabetes, cardiac disease, permanent disability or other disability or any other medical condition likely to affect your ability to safely drive a vessel. You must specify the medical condition, any conditions on your motor vehicle drivers' licence

Accredited trainers

Each trainer is an experienced seafarer and an accredited maritime trainer and assessor.



Boating and PWC Knowledge Test

These tests are **NOT** available on-line. All theory and practical tests must be present of an accredited Maritime



completed face-to-face within the Trainer and Assessor.

There are 50 multiple choice questions:

- 20 - the first 20 must ALL be answered correctly
- 30 - the next 30 questions must have 24 answered correctly

The PWC licence knowledge test cannot be attempted until the General Licence knowledge test has been successfully completed or the applicant holds a current boat licence

- 15 – PWC Multiple choice questions
- 12 – Must be answered correctly



After the course

Present the following to a Roads & Maritime Services (RMS) Office to obtain your boat licence:

- (1) Sea School successful Course Completion Report;
- (2) Maritime application form (completed in class);
- (3) 100 point identification;
- (4) Payment of a 1, 3, 5 or 10 year fee;
- (5) Medical disclosure, and without a NSW Drivers Licence undertake an eyesight test.

If you have chosen the [RMS logbook](#) option and do not participate in the Boating Practical Course, you'll need to present the completed logbook as well.

Maritime licence fact and fees

Roads & Maritime Services Licence Periods, as at 1 July 2016

General boat and PWC driving licences are issued for one, three, five or 10 years. Licences are issued as paper licences, followed by a plastic licence card.

Types of licence

There are two different types of licence:

1. General boat driving licence
2. PWC driving licence

General boat driving licence

This licence permits people aged 12 years and over to drive any vessel (except a PWC) at 10 knots or more.

PWC driving licence

A PWC driving licence is required for people aged 12 years and over to drive a PWC. People who hold a general boat driving licence can upgrade to a PWC driving licence at any time. A PWC driving licence includes a general boat licence. A PWC licence holder is able to operate a vessel with a fully enclosed hull that may be driven standing up, lying down, sitting astride or kneeling, and includes jet powered surfboards.

Licence holders aged from 12 to under 16 years

The holder of a general boat driving licence or PWC driving licence who is aged from 12 to under 16 years of age must not do any of the following:

- Drive at a speed greater than 20 knots
- Drive in any race, display, regatta, exhibition or similar operation
- Drive any vessel, other than a PWC, at a speed of 10 knots or more:
 - Without the holder of a general boat driving licence who is 16 years of age or older being present in the vessel, or
 - Between sunset and sunrise, or ○ While the vessel is towing anyone.
- Drive a PWC between sunset and sunrise (this rule applies to all PWC driving licence holders) □ Drive a PWC at a speed of 10 knots or more:
 - Without the holder of a PWC driving licence who is 16 years of age or older being present on the PWC, or
 - While the vessel is towing anyone.

Exceptions may apply in accordance with an aquatic licence.

RMS licence fees

ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICE LICENCE FEES	\$ BOAT	\$ PWC
One (1) year Licence	\$60	\$182
Three (3) year Licence	\$161	\$398
Five (5) year Licence	\$253	\$624

Ten (10) year Licence	\$451	\$903
One (1) year Concession or person aged under 16 years	\$30	\$91
Three (3) year Concession or person aged under 16 years Licence	\$81	\$199
Five (5) year Concession or person aged under 16 years Licence	\$127	\$312
Ten (10) year Concession or person aged under 16 years Licence	\$226	\$452
Replacement Licence	\$20	\$20
Reinstate Licence	\$36	\$36

Recommended reading

Roads and Maritime Services provide a [Safe Boating Handbook](#) to operate a vessel for recreational purposes on NSW waters and is a recommended Learners Guide and includes a list of study questions known as the 'Boating Knowledge Quiz'.

To learn about PWC operations, we recommend the Roads and Maritime Services [Personal Watercraft Handbook](#).

