

**Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots
Columbia-Willamette River Pilot Trainee Application
Instructions and Information**

All individuals desiring to be selected for the Columbia-Willamette River Pilot trainee program must submit a completed application form.

Applicants are ranked by the following point system:

A. Academic:

1. Graduation from high school or equivalent certification: 10 points
2. Two or more years at an accredited college or university: 5 points
3. Post-graduate or professional degree: 5 points
4. Completion of a four-year course of study at an accredited maritime academy: 15 points.

Maximum total points under this section are 25.

B. Previous Maritime Experience:

1. First Class Pilot License from Tansey point, Oregon to Ryan Point, Washington on the Columbia River, and from Kelley Point, Oregon to the Ross Island Bridge on the Willamette River: 25 points.
2. Federal pilotage endorsement on the Columbia River from Vancouver, Washington to Pasco, Washington: 5 points.
3. Federal unlimited radar observer endorsement: 5 points.
4. 1,460 or more active working days as master of towing vessels on the Columbia River and tributaries: 5 points.
5. Additional certified training in each of the following categories: Bridge Resource Management, Emergency Medical Training, Hazardous Materials, Marine Firefighting, Oil Spill Control: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 5 points.

Maximum total points under this section are 45.

- C. Interview:** Every applicant with a combined point total of 50 or more from points shall be interviewed by three or more members of the Board. Each person interviewed shall be assigned from 0 to 35 points.

The Board conducts periodic interviews and produces a ranked list of candidates from which to draw trainees when vacancies need to be filled.

A primary requirement for selection into the Columbia-Willamette River Pilot Trainee program is that all applicants must have served at least 730 active working days as captain of towing vessels on the Columbia River and its tributaries, or have completed a program of apprenticeship

training. Documentation to this effect must be submitted with your application. Also include a copy of your USCG license and any certifications of specialized training and experience.

Individuals who do not yet have the requisite two years masters' experience are welcome to submit an application that will be kept on file. The application can be updated as experience accumulates.

Please send your completed application form to: Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots, 800 NE Oregon St. # 15, Portland, OR 97223.

Candidates selected to train for licensure must have successfully completed the following requirements to receive an original pilot license:

- Hold an unlimited federal pilot's endorsement for the ground for which a state license is sought;
- Have made at least six trips under the supervision of an unlimited state-licensed pilot within six months preceding the application while on the bridge of a ship of not less than 500 feet length over-all (L.O.A.) through the bridges in the upper harbor in Portland, up to and including the Broadway Bridge, which shall be made with and without the aid of a tug or towboat, including at least one trip in each direction, and also including at least six ship turns in the Willamette River;
- Have made at least 100 transits while on the bridge of a ship of not less than 500 feet L.O.A. within the six months preceding the application, with at least 70 of these transits made under the supervision of an unlimited state-licensed pilot;
- Have made at least six trips under the supervision of an unlimited state-licensed pilot within the six months preceding the application while on the bridge of a ship of not less than 500 feet L.O.A. in a combination of the following directions, with at least two trips in each direction:
 - From the Willamette River, turning east (upstream) into the Columbia River; and
 - From the Columbia River upstream of the mouth of the Willamette River, turning south into the Willamette River.
- Present recommendations from the training course monitor and at least ten unlimited state-licensed pilots from the board's licensed training organization, certifying that the applicant has demonstrated local knowledge of the pilotage ground and shiphandling skills sufficient to pilot ocean-going ships on the pilotage ground, of a size authorized by a "Grade C" license.
- Present an application in writing to the administrator of the board on the form provided by the board for the pilotage ground for which the applicant intends to become licensed.
- Accompany the application with a physical examination form provided by the Board and signed by an Oregon licensed physician verifying that the applicant meets certain physical and mental criteria.
- Successfully complete an examination to test for skill and knowledge. The examination will be scored by the board member from the pilotage ground for which the applicant is seeking a license, and two additional pilots selected by the training course monitor and approved by the board, from the board's licensed training organization for the pilotage ground. The examination will be pass/fail.

