

UPDATE: Ship's Cook Certificate and Food & Catering under MCA / MLC 2006

(rev 2 090914)

Further to PYA's notice on requirements for the Ship's Cook Certificates of the 27th July, MCA has again updated and clarified the requirements for those applying for the Ship's Cook Certificate for UK Flagged, MLC compliant vessels.

The Ship's Cook Certificate (SCC) is required for all cooks who cook for crew and work onboard MLC compliant Yachts with 10 or more crew. These yachts must have a qualified person (SCC) onboard at all times (unless exemption has been given from Flag).

- ✓ Qualified Ship's Cooks holding a Ship's Cook Certificate of Competency issued or accepted under the Merchant Shipping (Certification of Ship's Cooks) Regulations 1981, will not be required to undertake any further training for a Ship's Cook.
- ✓ For Cooks applying under the UK Administration, and who have at least a UK Level 2 shore-based catering qualification e.g. City & Guilds or similar, will have to complete and pass an Assessment in Marine Cookery (the 2.5 day Ship's Cook Assessment).
- ✓ For Cooks who already hold catering qualifications issued by either an EU Member State or another Administration that has ratified the MLC; they should be advised to contact the Maritime Administration in the country where their catering qualifications were issued in order to apply for that country's Ship's Cook Certificate of Competency
- ✓ For UK flagged vessels, MCA will recognize Ship's Cooks Certificates of Competency issued from other MLC ratified Administrations.
- ✓ For Cooks with qualifications issued by an Administration that is neither an EU Member State nor a signatory to the Maritime Labour Convention 2006, they can apply for a UK Ship's Cook Certificate of Competency on the successful completion of a UK Assessment in Marine Cookery (the 2.5 day Ship's Cook Assessment)
- ✓ For Cooks without any formal qualification (i.e. self-taught) and who have at least 12 months experience in a catering establishment or business; they must have evidence of their work experience such as a letter from their employer & will need to complete and pass the Assessment in Marine Cookery (the 2.5 day Ship's Cook Assessment)
- ✓ All Ship's Cooks must meet the criteria in Food Hygiene or Food Safety in Catering as set out in MSN 1846. Note: MIN 479 for the list of qualifications and awarding bodies. Please note that following a recent revision of the Virtual College Food Safety online courses, the MCA has now confirmed that this certification will be accepted. However, you will require the full qualification, and therefore will need to undertake an additional assessment by visiting an accredited test centre.
- ✓ All Ship's Cooks are also required to complete STCW Basic Training Certificate in Security Awareness, have at least 1 month of Sea Service and hold a valid medical fitness certificate.
- ✓ All Evidence of Sea Service must be in the form of Discharge Book or testimonials, signed by the relevant Captain. The PYA SRB will be accepted.

Useful links....

MSN 1846 Food and Catering Ship's Cooks and Catering Staff: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1846-m-maritime-labour-convention-2006-food-and-catering-ships-cooks-and-catering-staff>

Food and Catering MIN 479:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/327773/MIN_479_Recognised_qualifications.pdf

Application form: (SEE ATTACHED FOR LINK

The list of countries who have currently ratified the MLC:
http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:11300:0::NO::P11300_INSTRUMENT_ID:312331.