

Maritime Administration, DOT

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Washington, DC 20590 for appropriate action.

(h) *Determination of compliance with service obligation contract; deferment; waiver; and appeal procedures.* (1) A designated official of the Administration shall:

(i) Determine whether a student or graduate has breached his or her service obligation contract;

(ii) Grant or deny a deferment of the service obligation, except for obligations otherwise a part of the graduate's commissioned officer status; and,

(iii) Grant or deny a waiver of the requirements of the service obligation contract in cases of undue hardship or impossibility of performance due to accident, illness or other justifiable reason.

(2)(i) If a student or graduate disagrees with the decision of the designated official, the student or graduate may appeal that decision to the Maritime Administrator. The appeal will set forth all the legal and factual grounds on which the student or graduate bases the appeal. Any grounds not set forth in the appeal are waived.

(ii) Appeals must be filed with the Maritime Administrator within 30 calendar days of the date of receipt by such student or graduate of the written decision of the designated official. Appeals must be filed at the Office of the Secretary, Maritime Administration, Room 7210, 400 7th St. SW., Washington, DC 20590. Each decision will include a notice of appeal rights.

(iii) A decision is deemed to be received by a student or graduate five (5) working days after the date it is mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the address for such student or graduate listed with the Office of Maritime Labor, Training, and Safety. It is the responsibility of such student or graduate to ensure that their current mailing address is on file with the Office of Maritime Labor, Training, and Safety, Room 7302, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590.

(iv) If the appeal is sent by conventional mail (through the United States Postal Service), the date of filing is determined by the postmark date. If no legible postmark date appears on the mailing, the appeal is deemed to be filed five (5) working days before the

date of its receipt in the Office of the Secretary. If delivered by other than the United States Postal Service, an appeal is filed with the Maritime Administrator on the date it is physically delivered to the Office of the Secretary at the address referenced in paragraph (h)(2)(ii) of this section. The date of filing by commercial delivery (not United States Postal Service) is the date it is received at the address for the Office of the Secretary set forth in paragraph (h)(2)(ii) of this section. Appeals may not be submitted by facsimile or by electronic mail. Requests for extension of the time to file an appeal may be submitted by facsimile or electronic mail to the Office of the Secretary. Requests for extension of time do not stop or toll the running of the time for filing an appeal. Appeals may only be filed after the deadline if the Maritime Administrator or his designee, in their sole discretion, grants an extension.

(v) In computing the number of days, the first day counted is the day after the event from which the time period begins to run. If the date that ordinarily would be the last day for filing falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the filing period will include the first workday after that date.

Example to paragraph (b)(10)(v): If a graduate receives a decision on July 1, the 30-day period for filing an appeal starts to run on July 2. The appeal would ordinarily be timely only if postmarked on or physically delivered by July 31. If July 31 is a Saturday, however, the last day for obtaining a postmark by mailing or physical delivery would be Monday, August 2.

(3) The Maritime Administrator will issue a written decision for each timely appeal. This decision constitutes final agency action.

(4) If a student or graduate fails to appeal within the time set forth in paragraph (h)(2) of this section, the decision of the designated official will be final and constitute final agency action.

[47 FR 21812, May 20, 1982, as amended at 60 FR 44438, Aug. 28, 1995; 65 FR 39558, June 27, 2000; 66 FR 36177, July 11, 2001]

§ 310.59 Courses of instruction.

(a) *At Academy.* Three major curriculums are offered: Nautical Science, for

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the preparation of deck officers; Marine Engineering, for the preparation of engineering officers; and the Dual License Program, a combined course which leads to licenses in both specialties. All midshipmen who are citizens shall take naval science courses prescribed by the Department of the Navy. All curriculums include general education courses and electives.

(b) *Sea year.* Midshipmen spend one-half of their sophomore (third class) year and one-half of their junior (second class) year training at sea aboard one or more merchant vessels. In addition to practical shipboard assignments, midshipmen are required to complete written study assignments incorporating material from the major segments of the Academy curriculums.

§ 310.60 Training on subsidized vessels.

All operators of subsidized merchant vessels, in accordance with contractual arrangements, are required to employ for training at least two midshipmen, as assigned by the Superintendent of the Academy, which employment shall be in accordance with the following provisions.

(a) *Work assignments.* All practical work assignments for midshipmen shall be in accordance with courses prescribed by the Superintendent of the Academy.

(b) *Working hours.* In order to permit midshipmen to complete their academic assignments, vessel employers shall not require midshipmen to work more than 8 hours each day. Midshipmen shall devote at least 3 hours of their own time each day to study.

(c) *Pay.* Midshipmen shall receive pay while employed aboard merchant vessels directly from the steamship company employers at the same rate received by cadets and midshipmen at the other Federal academies. A change in the rate of pay for midshipmen at the Academy shall occur after a change in the rate of pay for cadets/midshipmen at the other Federal academies and shall be effective either on June 15th or on December 15th of the same calendar year, whichever occurs first. While aboard ship, they shall be berthed in single-occupancy rooms or in rooms with other midshipmen in

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that part of the vessel designated for licensed officers (or in first-class passenger quarters) and shall mess with the licensed officers. The steamship company employers shall also pay the midshipmen such subsistence and room allowance in port, transportation allowances, and other bonuses or allowances as are paid to the licensed officers of the vessel in which the midshipmen are employed.

(d) *Berthing and messing.* While aboard ship, midshipmen shall be berthed in single-occupancy rooms or in rooms with other midshipmen in that part of the vessel designated for licensed officers (or in first-class passenger quarters) and shall mess with the licensed officers.

(Secs. 204(b) and 1301-1308, Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, (46 U.S.C. 1114(b); and 1295 through 1295g); Pub. L. 96-453; Pub. L. 97-31; 49 CFR 1.66 (46 FR 47458, Sept. 28, 1981); EO 12387 (47 FR 44981, Oct. 13, 1982)

[47 FR 21812, May 20, 1982, as amended at 52 FR 21534, June 8, 1987]

§ 310.61 Training on other vessels and by other facilities or agencies.

The Administrator may arrange for training of midshipmen on Government-owned vessels, in cooperation with other governmental and private agencies, and on other vessels documented under the laws of the United States if the owner of such vessel cooperates in such use. Midshipmen may be assigned for training in shipyards, plants, and industrial and educational organizations for instructional purposes only.

§ 310.62 Allowances and expenses; required deposit.

(a) *Items furnished.* Each midshipman shall receive: Free tuition, quarters and subsistence; limited medical and dental care; and certain travel expenses, in accordance with chapter 5, part A, of the Joint Travel Regulations For Members Of Uniform Services, Vol. 1 (U.S. Department of Defense publication, Serial No. 0516-LP-255-0265), while traveling under official Academy orders.

(b) *Required Deposit.* Prior to admission to the Academy, each midshipman shall make a specified deposit, as established by Academy regulations, to