

PROCESS TO BE A PILOT

Pilotage Law prescribes the following requirements for the qualification of a person who intends to become a pilot:

1. 1st grade pilot

- A person who intends to become a 1st grade pilot must have served, for not less than 2 years, as a master of an ocean-going vessel of not less than 3,000 gross tons.
- The person must complete the training course for 1st grade pilot at school. The total period of the course is 8.5 months (including 3.7 months of practical training in each pilotage district).
- The person must have passed a pilot examination given by the Minister of Land, Infrastructure Transport and Tourism (MLIT).

[Note] The pilot examination comprises a physical checkup, a written examination and an oral examination.

2. 2nd grade pilot

- A person who intends to become a 2nd grade pilot must have served, for not less than 2 years, as a master or a 1st officer of an ocean-going vessel of not less than 3,000 gross tons.
- The person must complete the training course for 2nd grade pilot at school. The total period of the course is 15 months (including 6.7 months of practical training in each pilotage district).

- The person must have passed a pilot examination given by the Minister of MLIT.

[Note] The pilot examination comprises a physical checkup, a written examination and an oral examination.

3. 3rd grade pilot

- A person who intends to become a 3rd grade pilot must have served, for not less than 1 year, as a master, a 1st~3rd officer or an apprentice officer of an ocean-going vessel of not less than 1,000 gross tons.
- The person must complete the training course for 3rd grade pilot at school. The total period of the course is 21 months (including 9 months of practical training in each pilotage district).
- The person must have passed a pilot examination given by the Minister of MLIT.

[Note] The pilot examination comprises a physical checkup, a written examination and an oral examination.