



# PROPOSED RULE MAKING

## CR-102 (June 2024) (Implements RCW 34.05.320) Do NOT use for expedited rule making

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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: June 30, 2025

TIME: 8:34 AM

WSR 25-14-072

Agency: Board of Pilotage Commissioners

☒ Original Notice

☐ Supplemental Notice to WSR \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Continuance of WSR \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 25-07-101 ; or

☐ Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR \_\_\_\_\_; or

☐ Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1); or

☐ Proposal is exempt under RCW \_\_\_\_\_.

Title of rule and other identifying information: (describe subject) WAC 363-116-080 Licensing of pilots

Hearing location(s):

Date:

Time:

Location: (be specific)

Comment:

September 18, 2025

10:00am

2901 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Agate  
Conference Room, Seattle, WA  
98121 and via MS Teams.

MS Teams: [Join the meeting now](#) or  
Dial in by phone  
[+1 206-531-0324](tel:+12065310324), 832235581#

Date of intended adoption: September 18, 2025 (Note: This is **NOT** the effective date)

Submit written comments to:

Name Jaimie Bever, Executive Director

Address 2901 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98121

Email [jaimie.bever@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:jaimie.bever@wsdot.wa.gov)

Fax

Other

Beginning (date and time) June 30, 2025 – 12pm PDST

By (date and time) September 10, 2025 - 4pm PDST

Assistance for persons with disabilities:

Contact Jolene Hamel

Phone 206-515-3904

Fax

TTY

Email [jolene.hamel@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:jolene.hamel@wsdot.wa.gov)

Other

By (date) September 15, 2025

**Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:** The BPC is proposing a revision to WAC 363-116-080 Licensing of Pilots requiring pilot candidates to provide a certificate representing competency in Electronic Charts Display and Information Systems (ECDIS) training prior to state licensure.

The proposed rule modifies existing licensure requirements by adding the following requirement to WAC 363-116-080(3): a certificate representing competency in electronic chart display and information systems (ECDIS) that complies with International Maritime Organization (IMO) standards and International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) regulations.

**Reasons supporting proposal:** This proposed rule revision is necessary due to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) sunset of traditional paper and raster nautical charts to focus solely on electronic navigational chart data, the more common source of navigation worldwide.

**Statutory authority for adoption:** Chapter 88.16 RCW, Pilotage Act

**Statute being implemented:** Chapter 88.16 RCW, Pilotage Act

Is rule necessary because of a:

Federal Law?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Federal Court Decision?

☐ Yes ☒ No

State Court Decision?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, CITATION:

**Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:** Both the BPC Pilot Exam Committee (PEC) and Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC) have made this recommendation to the Board recognizing the need to ensure electronic chart competency.

<b>Name of proponent:</b> (person or organization) Board of Pilotage Commissioners <b>Type of proponent:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Private. <input type="checkbox"/> Public. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governmental.			
<b>Name of agency personnel responsible for:</b>			
	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting	Jaimie Bever	Seattle, WA	206-515-3887
Implementation Commissioners	Board of Pilotage	Seattle, WA	206-515-3904
Enforcement Commissioners	Board of Pilotage	Seattle, WA	206-515-3904
<b>Is a school district fiscal impact statement required under <a href="#">RCW 28A.305.135</a>?</b>			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, insert statement here:			
The public may obtain a copy of the school district fiscal impact statement by contacting: Name Address Phone Fax TTY Email Other			
<b>Is a cost-benefit analysis required under <a href="#">RCW 34.05.328</a>?</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting: Name Address Phone Fax TTY Email Other			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: Please explain: The BPC is not a listed agency in RCW 34.05.328(5)(a)(i)			
<b>Regulatory Fairness Act and Small Business Economic Impact Statement</b> Note: The <a href="#">Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance (ORIA)</a> provides support in completing this part.			
<b>(1) Identification of exemptions:</b> This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, <b>may be exempt</b> from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act (see <a href="#">chapter 19.85 RCW</a> ). For additional information on exemptions, consult the <a href="#">exemption guide published by ORIA</a> . Please check the box for any applicable exemption(s):			
<input type="checkbox"/> This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under <a href="#">RCW 19.85.061</a> because this rule making is being adopted solely to conform and/or comply with federal statute or regulations. Please cite the specific federal statute or regulation this rule is being adopted to conform or comply with, and describe the consequences to the state if the rule is not adopted. Citation and description:			
<input type="checkbox"/> This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt because the agency has completed the pilot rule process defined by <a href="#">RCW 34.05.313</a> before filing the notice of this proposed rule.			
<input type="checkbox"/> This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under the provisions of <a href="#">RCW 15.65.570(2)</a> because it was adopted by a referendum.			

- ☒ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025\(3\)](#). Check all that apply:
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(b)<br>(Internal government operations) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(e)<br>(Dictated by statute)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(c)<br>(Incorporation by reference)     | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(f)<br>(Set or adjust fees)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(d)<br>(Correct or clarify language)    | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(g)<br>((i) Relating to agency hearings; or (ii) process requirements for applying to an agency for a license or permit) |
- ☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025\(4\)](#). (Does not affect small businesses).
- ☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW \_\_\_\_\_.  
Explanation of how the above exemption(s) applies to the proposed rule:

**(2) Scope of exemptions:** *Check one.*

- ☒ The rule proposal: Is fully exempt. (*Skip section 3.*) Exemptions identified above apply to all portions of the rule proposal.
- ☐ The rule proposal: Is partially exempt. (*Complete section 3.*) The exemptions identified above apply to portions of the rule proposal, but less than the entire rule proposal. Provide details here (consider using [this template from ORIA](#)):
- ☐ The rule proposal: Is not exempt. (*Complete section 3.*) No exemptions were identified above.

**(3) Small business economic impact statement:** *Complete this section if any portion is not exempt.*

If any portion of the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

- ☐ No Briefly summarize the agency's minor cost analysis and how the agency determined the proposed rule did not impose more-than-minor costs. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Yes Calculations show the rule proposal likely imposes more-than-minor cost to businesses and a small business economic impact statement is required. Insert the required small business economic impact statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the small business economic impact statement or the detailed cost calculations by contacting:

Name  
Address  
Phone  
Fax  
TTY  
Email  
Other

**Date:** June 30, 2025

**Name:** Jaimie C. Bever

**Title:** Executive Director

**Signature:**



**WAC 363-116-080 Licensing of pilots.** (1) No person shall be issued a pilot license until he/she has applied for a pilot license and successfully completed:

- (a) The written examination(s);
- (b) The simulator evaluation;
- (c) The pilot training program, as determined by the board;
- (d) A physical examination; and
- (e) Tendered the license fee stipulated in WAC 363-116-070.

(2) A majority of board members in attendance at a meeting where licensing of an applicant is scheduled for consideration, shall vote on the issuance of a pilot license. Pilot licenses shall be signed by the chairperson or his/her designee.

(3) At the time of completion of a training program as provided in WAC 363-116-078 and at the time of consideration for licensing, all applicants must provide a copy of his/her U.S. master license required by RCW 88.16.090 with a first class U.S. pilotage endorsement without tonnage or other restrictions on that U.S. master license to pilot in all of the waters of the pilotage district defined in RCW 88.16.050 in which the applicant desires to be licensed and an endorsement on that U.S. master license as a radar observer (unlimited); and both a certificate representing competency in automatic radar plotting aids (ARPA) and a certificate representing competency in electronic chart display and information system (ECDIS) that complies with International Maritime Organization (IMO) standards and International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) regulations.

(4) No person shall be licensed by the board who has been convicted of an offense involving drugs or the personal consumption of alcohol in the (~~twelve~~) 12 months prior to the date of application. This restriction shall not apply to license renewals.

(5) After completion of a training program the trainee evaluation committee (TEC) shall review the evaluations and the pilot trainee's performance on other required aspects of the training program and report to the board that the pilot trainee has or has not: Successfully completed all requirements set forth in the training program including any addendum(s) to the program. The board shall consider training program documentation and TEC reports and may: Issue the license if there is a need for a pilot in the relevant pilotage district; deny a license if it finds that the pilot trainee should not be licensed; or, delay the issuance of a license, if there is no need for a pilot at that time in the relevant district. If the board delays the issuance of a license, it may at its discretion offer an optional program that would maintain piloting skills and knowledge and may enable stipend credit to be earned and paid. The criteria to be followed by the board in issuing or denying licenses shall include, but not be limited to: Performance in the training program; piloting and ship handling and general seamanship skills; local knowledge; and, bridge presence and communication skills.

(6) If two or more pilot trainees are deemed qualified by the board for issuance of a license at the same meeting of the board, the pilot trainee with the highest combined score on the initial written examination and simulator evaluation shall be licensed first.