

WASHINGTON STATE MARINE PILOT EXAM OVERVIEW

WE WILL BEGIN SHORTLY



WASHINGTON STATE MARINE PILOT EXAM OVERVIEW

NOVEMBER 3, 2023

TODAY'S PRESENTATION



- About the Board of Pilotage Commissioners (BPC)
- Washington's Pilotage Districts – Puget Sound and Grays Harbor
- Qualifications for the 2024 Exam
- Overview of the Exam Process
- Pilot Training Program At-A-Glance
- 2024 Exam Reminders and Deadlines
- Q&A



TODAY'S PRESENTERS



- **Facilitator** – Jolene Hamel, Training Program Manager, BPC
- **Presenters**
 - Jaimie Bever, Executive Director, BPC
 - Amanda Dainis, PhD, Exam Psychometrician, Dainis & Co.
 - Captain Sandy Bendixen, Puget Sound Pilots
 - Captain Ryan Leo, Port of Grays Harbor

BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS



■ Presenter – Jaimie Bever, Executive Director

➤ 9 Member Board

➤ Our Programs

➤ Our Values

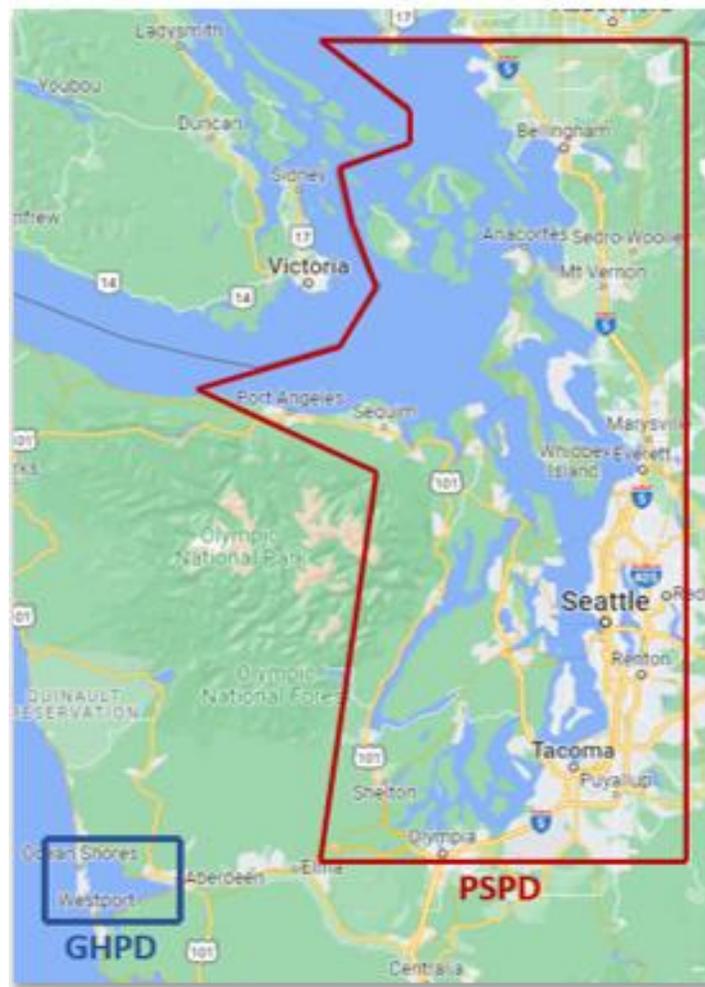
- Transportation Safety
- Environmental Stewardship
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Integrity and Transparency



WASHINGTON STATE'S TWO PILOTAGE DISTRICTS



Sunset at anchor in Grays Harbor. Image courtesy of Captain Bobby D'Angelo, Director of Grays Harbor Pilotage.



PUGET SOUND PILOTS
Protecting Puget Sound Since 1935



View of Mt. Rainier from the Port of Tacoma. Image courtesy of Captain David Melin, Puget Sound Pilots.

PUGET SOUND PILOTAGE DISTRICT

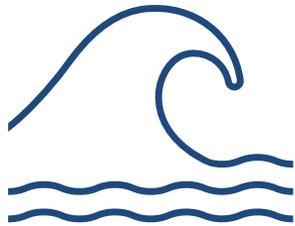


PUGET SOUND PILOTS
Protecting Puget Sound Since 1935



■ Serviced by Puget Sound Pilots (PSP)

- Association of Independent Contractors
- Established – 1935
- Board-authorized for 56 pilots



■ More information about PSP

- www.pspilots.org
- BPC Annual Reports <https://pilotage.wa.gov/annualreports.html>
- Upcoming webinar – Friday, November 10



View of the Seattle skyline from a container ship. Image courtesy of Puget Sound Pilots.

GRAYS HARBOR PILOTAGE DISTRICT



- Serviced by the Port of Grays Harbor

- Pilots are employees of the Port
- 2nd Oldest Port District in Washington State – 1911
- Board authorized for 3 pilots

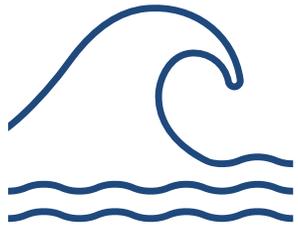
- More information about GH

- www.portofgraysharbor.com
- BPC Annual Report

<https://pilotage.wa.gov/annualreports.html>



A bulk carrier docking at the Port of Grays Harbor. Image courtesy of the Port of Grays Harbor.



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



BPC	Puget Sound Pilots and Port of Grays Harbor
Regulatory Oversight	Pilot Dispatch
Legislation and Rulemaking	Pilot Station and Boat Operation
Administer Training Program	Administer Benefits and Retirement
Issue State Pilot Licenses	Tariff (set by the UTC) Billing and Collection
Incident and Marine Safety Occurrence Reporting and Investigation	Continuing Education for Pilots
Exempt Qualifying Vessels from Pilotage	Provide Pilotage Expertise

EXAM QUALIFICATIONS



- Highlights Per WAC 363-116-075 I
(scan for full list of qualifications)
 - U.S. Citizen
 - 1600 GT license for at least 2 years prior to application
 - 1-2 years command time depending on vessel class
(not all command time meets WA State qualification)
- No local knowledge or federal pilotage necessary



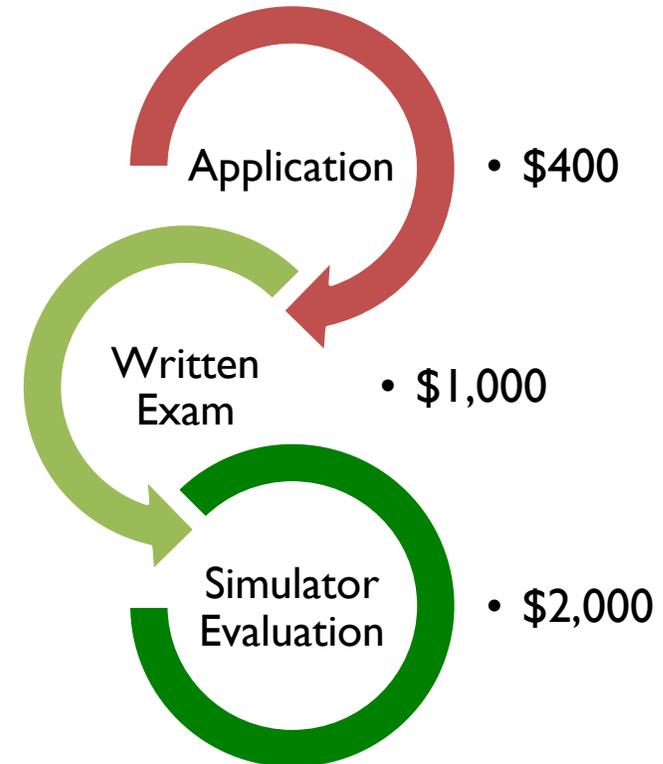
(Note: Qualification is subject to application and
sea time review by the BPC)



COSTS FOR THE WA STATE MARINE PILOT EXAM



- 2024 Exam Fees
- Other Potential Expenses
 - Travel
 - Accommodations
 - Simulator Time
 - Resources



EXAM OVERVIEW

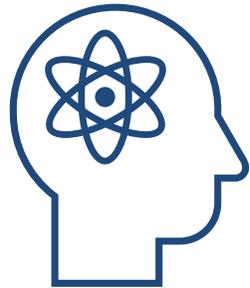


- Offered at least every 4 years
- Anonymous process
- Two steps:
 - Written Exam
 - Simulator Evaluation
- Psychometrically validated
- Ranked waiting list



Captain Bendixen on the pilot ladder during her training program. Image courtesy of Puget Sound Pilots.

PSYCHOMETRIC VALIDATION



- Psychometrics:

- “A branch of psychology concerned with the quantification and measurement of mental attributes, behavior, performance, and the like, as well as with the design, analysis, and improvement of the tests, questionnaires, and other instruments used in such measurement.” (APA Dictionary of Psychology, 2019)

- Validity:

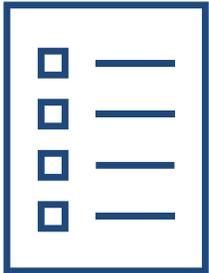
- “The degree to which empirical evidence and theoretical rationales support the adequacy and appropriateness of conclusions drawn from some form of assessment.” (APA Dictionary, 2019)

PSYCHOMETRIC VALIDATION (CONT'D)



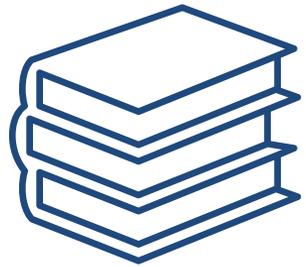
■ Job Task Analysis (JTA):

- Develops a comprehensive list of skills needed for successful pilotage;
- Determines test specifications including type of assessment, format, number of items, and length of time
- Develops the test blueprint, which outlines how many test questions are needed for each content area; and
- Clarification of JTA, exam blueprint, local knowledge, and bibliography



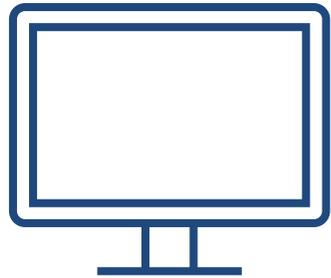
(Dainis, Amanda M., *To Validity and Beyond!: A Handbook for Credentialing Exams*, 2021)

WRITTEN EXAMINATION – STEP I



- 100 Questions
- Bibliography and Exam Blueprint provided (application packet)
- Reminder
 - Must pass the Written Exam to be eligible for the Simulator Evaluation portion of the exam.
 - Give equal weight to studying both for the Written Exam and Simulator Evaluation
 - Study groups are available, if desired

WRITTEN EXAMINATION – REMOTE PROCTORING



- Administered online using a secured testing platform
- Taken at a location of applicants choosing
- All tests taken on April 8, 2024 @ 0900 Pacific Time
- System and Environmental Requirements, such as internet speed, surroundings, and camera will be provided once you are approved by the Board to sit for the exam
- Philosophy and Security Protocols behind Remote Proctoring – Dr.Amanda Dainis, Exam Psychometrician

SIMULATOR EVALUATION – STEP 2



- Where: MITAGS West (formerly Pacific Maritime Institute (PMI) – Seattle, WA
- When: Beginning the week of April 22



- Details:

- General shiphandling skills as a Captain
- Simulator training or experience is not required
- Scheduled to be held in the OSV simulator at MITAGS
- Limited guided simulator time (approx. 1 hour) will be provided prior to Simulator Evaluation

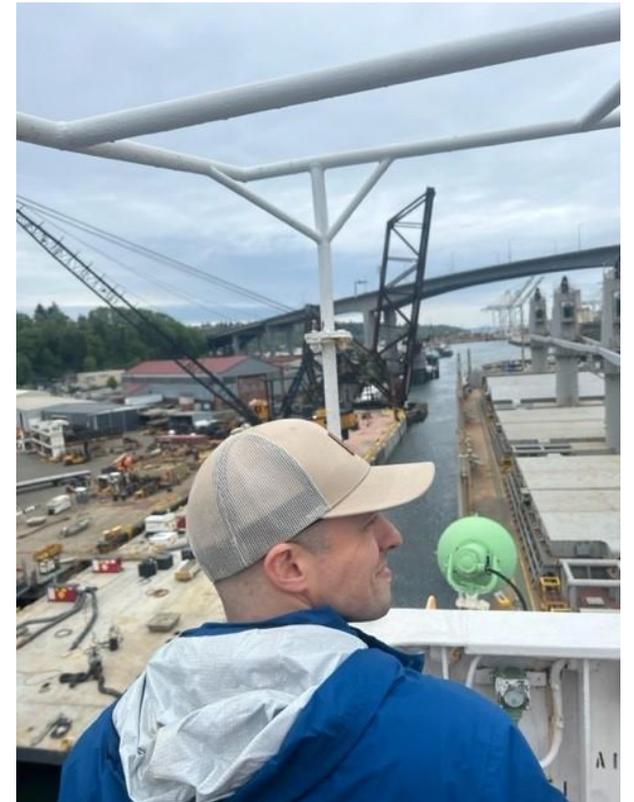
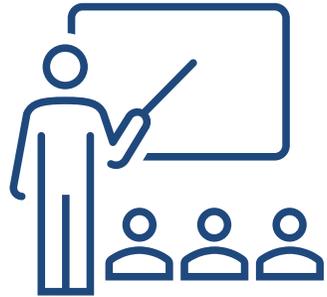


Pilot's view in the simulator at MITAGS West. Image courtesy of MITAGS West.

PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM



- **Training At-a-Glance – In Puget Sound**
 - Entry and Training Contract
 - Observation, Training, Evaluation – 300+/- Trips
 - Federal Pilotage (26 charts)
 - Monthly Stipend – \$8,000
 - Training Matrix (requirements) – 36-month max (average completion is under two years)
 - Periodic Deadlines
 - Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC)
 - Board of Pilotage Commissioners (BPC)

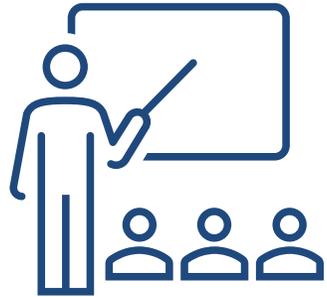


PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM



■ Training At-a-Glance – In Grays Harbor

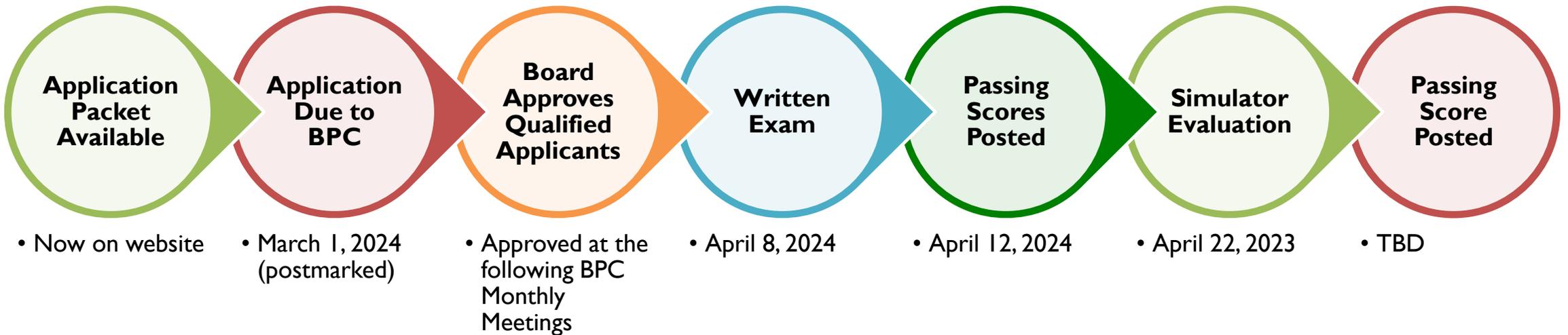
- Entry and Training Contract
- Observation, Training, Evaluation – 150 +/- Trips
- Federal Pilotage (I chart)
- Monthly Stipend or Employment with the Port of Grays Harbor
- Training Matrix (requirements) – 30 Month Max. (average completion is 1 year)
- Periodic Deadlines
- Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC)
- Board of Pilotage Commissioners (BPC)



NEXT MARINE PILOT EXAM



- April 8, 2024
- Important Dates:





EXAM DEADLINES AND REMINDERS

- Pilot Aspirant Distribution List
 - Email PilotageInfo@wsdot.wa.gov or
 - Contact Jolene Hamel, BPC Training Program Manager at HamelJ@wsdot.wa.gov or (206) 515-3904
- Check BPC Website Often!
 - www.pilotage.wa.gov/exam-information.html
- PSP Webinar November 10, 2023
- Ask a Pilot! Drop-in Sessions – December 14 & January 18 (details to come)
- Applications Due By – March 1, 2024 (postmarked)
- Written Exam Date – April 8, 2024
- Good Luck and Keep in Touch!

RESOURCES AND CONTACT INFO



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PUGET SOUND PILOTS
Protecting Puget Sound Since 1935

Captain Ivan Carlson
President

Charlie Costanzo
Executive Director

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www.pspilots.org



Port of Grays Harbor
On Washington's Pacific Coast

Mike Folkers
Director Finance and Administration

(360) 533-9528
www.portofgraysharbor.com

CONCLUSION AND Q&A



Thank you!

Questions?