

**Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots  
Pilot Apprentice Training Program Application  
Information and Instructions**

**Apprenticeship Description:**

The Columbia River Pilots Apprenticeship Program was founded in 1995 as an alternate training opportunity for pilot applicants who do not meet the service requirements for entry into the traditional Columbia River Pilot Training Program. While candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply, a successful candidate will typically have maritime experience, a maritime academy, or college background, and a strong desire to be a pilot on the Columbia River.

The Apprenticeship Program is a very rigorous program requiring a significant commitment of time and energy. Typically, apprentices must be available to train onboard vessels 25 days per month. Apprentices are required to train both days and nights and can be expected to be away from home for up to 48 hours at a time. The apprenticeship takes between four and five years to complete. After successful completion of the Apprenticeship Program, the apprentice becomes eligible to enter the Columbia River Pilots Training Program. The Columbia River Pilots Training Program requires an additional two and one-half years of training and piloting on limited licenses before becoming an Unlimited State-Licensed Pilot.

**Requirements of the Apprenticeship Program:**

- 1,000 transits on the Columbia River System between the ports of Astoria and Portland/Vancouver. At the discretion of the Training Organization, 250 of these transits may be between intermediate ports.
- 30 days of additional training at the discretion of the Training Organization. Typically this training would be comprised of classroom and simulator training.
- More details on training requirements for the Columbia & Willamette River Pilotage Ground can be found on the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilot's website (<http://egov.oregon.gov/ODOT/BMP>).

**Stipend:**

In order to assist with living expenses, a stipend of \$2,500 per month is provided to apprentices training full-time. Training full-time is defined as training on board vessels a minimum of 20 days per month. The apprentice is also provided with the use of company cars and Pilot Station in Astoria. No health benefits are offered.

**Available Position:**

One apprenticeship position is available to begin training during summer 2007. Interviews are tentatively scheduled to be held in May, 2007. Please contact the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots for additional information. Future positions will be posted here as they become available.

Upon completion of training, the successful candidate will become one of a limited number of maritime professionals entrusted to guide large ocean vessels over 100 miles of the Columbia River as it winds its way from its mouth at Astoria, Oregon through mountainous terrain to the ports of Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, Washington.

**Application Process:**

All individuals desiring to be selected for the Pilot Apprentice training program must submit a completed application form.

Applicants are ranked by the following point system:

- A. Academic:
  - 1. Completion of a four-year course of study at an accredited college or university or maritime academy will be awarded 5 points and receipt of a graduate degree will be awarded 10 points. An applicant's college grade point average on a 4.0 scale shall be multiplied by a factor of 1.25. The maximum total points under this section are 15.
  
- B. Previous Maritime Experience - Applicants shall be awarded points up to a maximum of 35 based on federal licensure and other evidence of experience as follows:
  - 1. Master of Towing Vessels (Inland Waterways): 2 per year (25 maximum).
  - 2. Master of Towing Vessels (Ocean): 1 per year (25 maximum).
  - 3. Master, Vessels Greater than 1,600 Tons: 2 per year (25 maximum).
  - 4. Master, Vessels 1,600 Tons or Less: 1 per year (25 maximum).
  - 5. Chief, Second or Third Mate on Vessels Greater than 1,600 Tons or Deckhand Experience on Towboats on Inland Waters: 1/2 (.5) per year.
  - 6. First Class Pilot Endorsement for Columbia and Willamette River, Astoria to Portland/Vancouver: 10.
  - 7. First Class Pilot Endorsement for Any Other U.S. Inland Waterway: 5.
  
- C. Interview (maximum 25 points): Every applicant shall be interviewed by the Board of Maritime Pilots. Each person interviewed shall be assigned from 0 to 25 points.

The Board conducts periodic interviews and produces a ranked list of candidates from which to draw trainees when vacancies need to be filled.

Documentation of education and experience must be submitted with your application. Also include a copy of your USCG license and any certifications of specialized training.

Please send your completed application form to: Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots, 800 NE Oregon St. # 15, Portland, OR 97223.