

# Maritime Cook Islands

## Seafarer Training & Certification

2026 | Seafarer Training & Certification

MARITIME
COOK ISLANDS
The Cook Islands Ship Registry



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# ABOUT US



**KIA ORANA,**

The Seafarer Training & Certification Department of Maritime Cook Islands is responsible for implementing the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) 1978, as amended, across the Cook Islands Ships Registry.

The Department ensures that all seafarers serving aboard Cook Islands vessels are appropriately trained, qualified and certified in accordance with the regulations and requirements of the STCW Convention.

The Cook Islands is listed on the International Maritime Organization (IMO) STCW White List, confirming that the country has fully demonstrated compliance with the Convention's standards for training, certification, and watchkeeping of seafarers.
Seafarers intending to serve in Officer capacities aboard Cook Islands vessels to which the STCW applies, are required to apply for Flag Endorsement prior to embarkation.

There are no restrictions regarding the nationality of seafarers serving on Cook Islands flagged vessels.

**Tiare Alice Story**
*Head of Seafarer Training and Certification Department.*

# WHY THE COOK ISLANDS?

**ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATION & FORMS**
Digital systems include online application forms, electronic certification, and QR code technology.

**24 HOUR TURN AROUND FOR THE ISSUANCE OF LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**IN-HOUSE TECHNICAL EXPERTS**
Maritime Cook Islands has a team of highly skilled technical experts, including naval architects, marine engineers, and ISM, ISPS and MLC auditors

**NO RESTRICTIONS ON THE NATIONALITY OF CREW**
No restrictions to the nationality of seafarers employed on Cook Islands flagged vessels.

**IMO STCW WHITE LIST STATUS**
The Cook Islands is a party to the IMO STCW White list.

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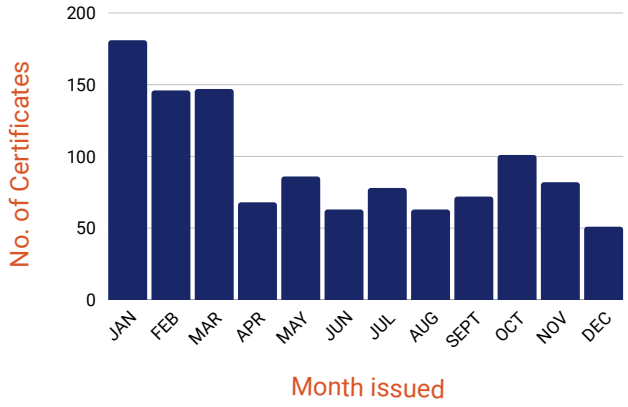
**IMO REPRESENTATION**
The Government of the Cook Islands appointed Captain Ian Finley as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to IMO and sub-committee delegates.

# SERVICES

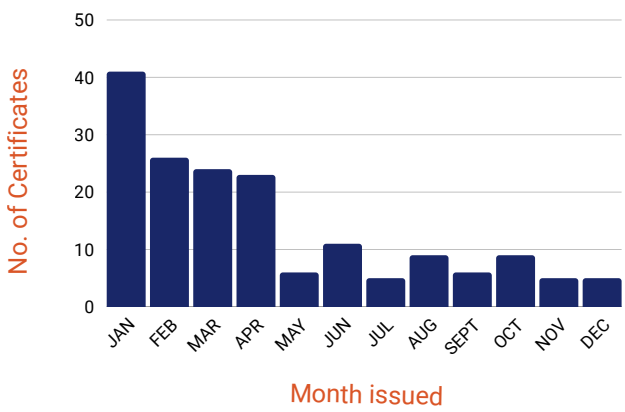
## COOK ISLANDS CoC AND CoPs

Cook Islands Certificates of Competency (CoC) and Proficiency (CoP) are issued to seafarers who have successfully completed training at a Cook Islands approved Maritime Training Institution (MTI).

**TOTAL NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY ISSUED IN 2025**




**TOTAL NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES OF PROFICIENCY ISSUED IN 2025**




For further course requirements and information, please contact the nearest Cook Islands approved MTI near you:

## MARITIME TRAINING INSTITUTES

**Panama**
Seafarers Training Center Inc. (STC)
Website: www.stcpanama.net
Email: deptraining@stcpanama.net

**Turkey**
Poseidon Maritime Academy (PMA)
Website: www.poseidonmaritimeacademy.com
Email: info@poseidonmtc.com

**Greece**
Maritime Activities Consultants (MAC)
Website: www.mac.com.gr
Email: mac-gr@otenet.gr

**Croatia**
SSM United – Ship Management Ltd.
Website: www.ssm.hr
Email: ssm-training@ssm.hr



**India**
YAK Group
Website: www.yakindia.com
Email: cy@yakindia.com

**Egypt**
International Maritime Science Academy (IMS)
Website: www.ims-academy.com
Email: info@ims-academy.net

# SERVICES

## CERTIFICATE OF ENDORSEMENT (COE)

Deck and engineering officers and radio operators intending to serve aboard a Cook Islands vessel must apply for Flag Endorsement prior to embarkation.

In addition, all deck and engineering officers and operators intending to serve aboard Tankers and Passenger vessels must apply for Flag Endorsement of specialized training in accordance with Chapter V of the STCW, as amended.

### STEP 1

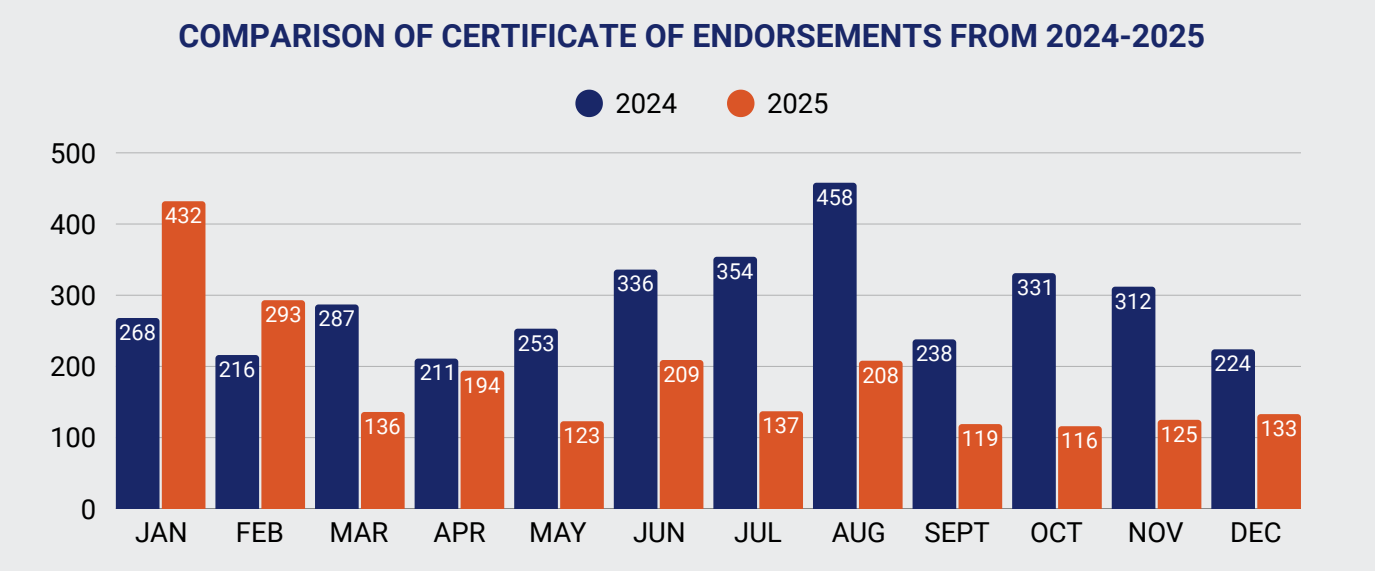
Cook Islands Endorsement Applications can be applied for via our Online Application Forms which is available on our Maritime Cook Islands Website.

### STEP 2

Following a successful review of the application and its supporting documentation, an LoA (Letter of Acknowledgement) will be issued within 24 hours.

### STEP 3

Following payment of the service fee and successful verification of the relevant documents submitted within the endorsement application, the Cook Islands Certificate of Endorsement shall be issued.




## CERTIFICATE OF ENDORSEMENT PROCESS



# SERVICES

## COOK ISLANDS SEAMANS DISCHARGE BOOKS

The Cook Islands accepts and recognizes Seamans Discharge Books issued by foreign flags and does not require that the document be issued in accordance with the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No.185 Seafarer Identity Document for service aboard Cook Islands flagged vessels.

### STEP 1

Cook Islands Seamans Discharge Books can be applied for through our Application Form (Form 60) which is available on our Maritime Cook Islands Website.

### STEP 2

The Application form along with the supporting documents can be submitted to seafarers@maritimecookislands.com for processing.

## MEDICAL FITNESS CERTIFICATES

In accordance with the STCW Convention 1978, as amended and the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), all seafarers serving on Cook Islands-flagged vessels are required to hold a valid medical certificate issued by a recognised medical practitioner, certifying that the seafarer is fit for sea going service.

### MEDICAL CERTIFICATE TEMPLATE

The Cook Islands provides an official Medical Examination Report/Certificate template that may be used for recording seafarer medical examinations. This template can be found through our Maritime Cook Islands website (Form 31 Medical Examinations certificate v3).

### APPROVED MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

In the case of the Cook Islands, the Administration approves persons registered as medical practitioners under the Cook Islands Medical and Dental Practices Act 1976 and authorised to practice.

The Cook Islands also accepts medical certificates issued by medical practitioners who are authorised to conduct seafarer medical examinations and issue medical certificates in accordance with STCW and MLC by the State in which they operate.

A register of Approved medical practitioners can be found on our website including direct links to the lists maintained by each recognised state.

For more information, contact us at seafarers@maritimecookislands.com





# CONTACT US




## COOK ISLANDS INTERNATIONAL OFFICES AND AGENTS

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# Seafarer Training & Certification Guidelines

2026