

OFFSHORE CRUISING INSTRUCTOR STANDARD

Course Description

This instructor level follows certification and activity as an Advanced Cruising Instructor. Candidates successfully completing this standard will be authorized to deliver training leading to the Offshore Cruising and Offshore Crew standards. Candidates sailing, boat handling and navigation skills will be assessed to ensure that they are capable of demonstrating skills that are components of this level of instruction. Good communications and interpersonal skills will also be key in success at achieving this standard.

It is envisioned that this Standard be implemented as a team teach with an Offshore Cruising Instructor Evaluator. Candidates will need to allocate additional time to complete working papers, review materials and prepare for the clinic. An offshore passage is defined as a voyage exceeding 100 miles from the nearest land and is navigated by celestial and electronic means without visual or electronic reference to terrestrial objects.

Objective

To prepare, authorize and evaluate the capability of experienced Advanced Cruising Instructors to deliver Sail Canada programs leading to the Offshore Crew and Offshore Cruising Standards. At the end of this program the successful candidate should have the basic tools to be ready to develop a curriculum and plan and deliver quality lessons that will build student skills and knowledge at the level of the Sail Canada Offshore Cruising and Offshore Crew standards.

Prerequisites

The candidate must:

1. Be age 25 or older;
2. Be currently registered as a Sail Canada Advanced Cruising Instructor;
3. Have logged a minimum of 300 hours teaching as a Sail Canada Cruising Instructor with 50% or more of this time teaching afloat and have taught at least 2 live-board course leading to the Sail Canada Advanced Cruising Standard;
4. Have the Sail Canada Offshore Student Standard;
5. Have completed the Sail Canada Offshore Personal Survival Course;
6. Have logged a minimum sailing experience of:
 - a) A total of 1500 nautical miles of passage making as skipper or watch keeping crew accumulated on offshore passages of not less than 200 miles each,
 - b) A minimum of three separate offshore passages with at least two as skipper, including a passage further than 200 nautical miles from shore;
7. Be recommended by a currently registered Sail Canada Offshore certified, Senior LTC/P Instructor Evaluator;
8. Demonstrate characteristics and motivations worthy of being at Sail Canada LTC/P Instructor;
9. Demonstrate a willingness to support the goals of the Sail Canada LTC/P program.

Ashore Knowledge

The candidate must:

1. Achieve a mark of 90% on the *Sail Canada Offshore Cruising Part A* examination (an open-book, take home exam);
2. Achieve a mark of 90% on the *Sail Canada Offshore Cruising Part B* examination (a closed-book, invigilated exam);
3. Achieve a mark of 90% on the *Sail Canada Celestial Navigation* examination and Sail Canada Advanced Navigation examinations;

Ashore Skills and Ashore Skills Evaluation

The candidate:

1. Will demonstrate a competent ability to teach, coach and evaluate the principles of advanced and celestial navigation;
2. Will be evaluated on ability to plan, teach, coach and evaluate a selection of performance objectives from the Ashore Knowledge section of the Offshore Cruising Standard.

Afloat Skills and Afloat Skills Evaluation

The candidate:

1. Will be evaluated on ability to plan, teach, coach and evaluate a selection of performance objectives from the Afloat Skills from the Offshore Cruising Standard;
2. Will plan and execute an unfamiliar landfall as skipper;
3. Will provide a course curriculum for a program leading to the Offshore Cruising Standard.

Outcomes

At the end of this clinic candidates may be:

- a) Successful and complete,
- b) Trained - successful and incomplete (candidate missing prerequisites; examinations or working papers not completed to the required standard),
- c) In Training - unsuccessful (Candidate did not demonstrate an appropriate level of sailing or seamanship skills, unprofessional behavior at the clinic).

Candidates who are unsuccessful will be given a path to follow to address observed deficiencies and advised what will be required for them to achieve certification if desired.

Successful but incomplete candidates will be advised of their outstanding requirements and the time frame in which these requirements must be addressed.

Certification Authority

Offshore Cruising Standard and Offshore Crew standard as well as the certification powers of an Advanced Cruise Instructor.

Additional Notes

Instructors must register annually prior to teaching or awarding Sail Canada certifications.

An instructor candidate should possess all prerequisites prior to enrolling in a clinic, and must complete all the requirements for certification within four months of the last day of the Instructor Development Program (IDP) in which the Instructor Candidate participated.

Recertification is required for all instructor levels within 36 months of the first calendar yearend following the last day of an initial certification, recertification or IDP as authorized by the Sail Canada Training and Certification Committee.

Recertification is by application to the Sail Canada as per the LTC/P Practices and Procedures Handbook or the Sail Canada website or by attending an IDP to renew Instructor/IE qualifications.

Physical Requirements for Candidates

These are offered as live aboard courses and include 5 or more days of continuous passage. Periods of moderate upper body exertion, a moderate level of arm strength as well as agility and balance sufficient to allow the instructor candidate to safely move around the vessel are required. Candidates must complete a Transport Canada Marine Medical to be able to complete this instructor standard (effective 01/01/2016). Candidates must be capable of taking responsibility for and operating the teaching vessel both day and night under sail and power in a wide range of weather conditions including large seas and wind conditions that may reach or exceed gale force wind strength. Demonstration of good communications and coaching skills and the ability to correctly demonstrate any of the skills that are part of the offshore cruising standard are mandatory requirements. The ability to build and manage small teams and the stamina to ensure safe operation of the vessel throughout the training sessions are required.

Further Information

For further information on becoming a Sail Canada Keelboat / Cruising Instructor contact your Provincial Sailing Association or Sail Canada.