
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2018 No. 1108

The Merchant Shipping (Work in Fishing Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2018

Fishermen to have a valid medical fitness certificate

4.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (3) and (4) and regulation 14, no person may work as a fisherman on a fishing vessel unless that person has been issued with a medical fitness certificate which is still valid and not suspended.

(2) A fisherman who has been issued with a medical fitness certificate must carry that certificate on board at all times when on board a fishing vessel.

(3) A fisherman whose medical fitness certificate has expired during the course of a voyage may continue to work until—

- (a) the time at which the fishing vessel arrives at the first port at which it is possible for the fisherman to make an application for a medical fitness certificate and be examined by a medical practitioner; or
- (b) the expiry of three months starting on the date of the expiry of the certificate,

whichever is the sooner.

(4) In urgent cases, with the Secretary of State's approval, if a person —

- (a) does not hold a valid medical fitness certificate; but
- (b) has held a medical fitness certificate which was valid for a period of not less than 24 months (or in the case of a person under 18 years of age at the date of the issue of the certificate, 12 months) and that certificate has expired no earlier than one month before the date on which that person joined a fishing vessel,

that person may work as a fisherman on that ship until the time at which the fishing vessel arrives at the first port at which it is possible for an application for a medical fitness certificate as respects that person to be made and for that person to be examined by a medical practitioner, but in any case for a period not exceeding three months.

(5) No person may work as a fisherman on a vessel in a capacity of sea service or in a geographical area precluded by any restriction in that person's medical fitness certificate.

(6) No person may work as a fisherman on a fishing vessel in breach of a condition of that person's medical fitness certificate.