



IMMARBE

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT
MARINE REGISTRY OF BELIZE

Seafarers Department CIRCULAR LETTER No. SDC-18-03 Merchant Marine

Issued under the authority of the Merchant Ships (Registration) Act of 2010 (Part 1/Section 5)

To: DEPUTY REGISTRARS, SHIP OWNERS/ISM OPERATORS/RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS/SHIPPING AGENTS/GENERAL SAFETY INSPECTORS

Subject: BELIZE SEAFARER MEDICAL CERTIFICATES PROCESS

PURPOSE

To establish the steps involved for acceptance and verification of Medical Certificates for seafarers intending to operate on-board Belizean registered vessels.

GENERAL:

The Maritime Administration of Belize has been making great advances in fulfilling our obligatory requirements under the MLC and STCW as amended. This notice endeavours to ensure that we have a proper medical process in operation.

It is henceforth required that every seafarer seeking to be employed or engaged in any capacity on-board every Belize seagoing ship, and which is ordinarily engaged in commercial maritime operations adhere to the provisions of this Notice.

The intention is to ensure that all our seafarers are found to be in good health and fit to operate on board our vessels.

IMMARBE Head Office has:

1. Created a Medical implementation guidelines to be utilized by all our stakeholders. (*See Annex 1*).
2. Implemented a registration process and have been able to officially register Belizean doctors to issue Medical certificates locally (*See Annex 2*).
 - N.B (International doctors intending to be pre-approved on a register at IMMARBE Head Office can apply by filling out application form attached (*See Annex 3*) to this

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Date November 13, 2018

Status: Released

notice or visit IMMARBE's website at (www.immarbe.com).

3) Updated existing Medical Certificate to meet IMO requirements. (See annex4)

Deputy Registrars Authorized by IMMARBE are required to:

1. Assist in informing crewing agents that they must adhere to the provisions of this notice, after it comes into force.
2. Notify crewing agents also that any Medical Doctors intending to physically examine any mariner intending to work on-board a Belizean registered vessel can visit IMMARBE's website and download the established Medical Checklist as per Annex 5 of this notice and utilize the updated Medical Report Certificate as per Annex 4 of this notice for issuance.
3. Verify information prior to accepting any Medical Certificate from any applicant.
4. Ensure that Medical Certificates obtained for personnel intending to operate on-board Belizean registered vessels are made by IMMARBE approved doctors as per Annex 2 of this notice or by a qualified Medical Practitioner currently accredited by the Medical Registration Authority for the country in which they are conducting medical service.
5. Check that the practitioner has readily available updated contact information for any necessary verification (*Any Medical practitioner that cannot be positively verified by IMMARBE Head Office will NOT be approved for endorsement of CoC's*).
6. Ensure that the validity and authenticity of the certificate is assessed before sending to Belize City Headquarters.

ENFORCEMENT:

This medical process comes into force on the 15th **December, 2018**

Attached as an annex to this Notice:

- Annex 1 Guidance for Issuance of Belize Medical Fitness Certificates 2018
- Annex 2 List of approved Doctors registered in Belize
- Annex 3 Doctor Application form
- Annex 4 Updated Medical Certificate
- Annex 5 Medical checklist

REFERENCES

- **Standards of Training Certification and Watchkeeping 1978, as amended in Manila 2010**
- **Maritime Labour Convention, 2006**

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- **Resolution DG-004- The Maritime Labour Convention, 2006**
- **Resolution DG-001- International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize; Requirements for Merchant Marine Personnel's Certification.**
- **Medical Practitioners' Registration Act CAP 318 of the Laws of Belize, revised edition, 2000**
- **ILO Guidelines on the Medical Examination of Seafarers.**



Annette Garel (Mrs)
Senior Deputy Registrar
IMMARBE HEAD
OFFICE

