

**US Coast Guard Auxiliary- D11**

**AUX Reconstitution Plan: Phase II FAQ**

**Question 1:** AUX COVID 19 High Risk Certification Form Does this need to be submitted again since it appears to be the same form as issued in Phase 1?

**Answer:** The AUX COVID 19 Risk Assessment form only needs to be submitted once unless there are changes to a member’s status.  If there are no changes and the member has a form on file with DIRAUX then DIRAUX will forward it to the appropriate OIA as necessary.  Para 4 of memo addresses this.

**Question 2:**If an AUX Patrol is authorized by OIA, are ODU’s or polo shirt worn under required PPE?

**Answer:**Per the Phase 2 Rollout email, if authorized, will be noted in the approved Assignment To Duty Request.  Any restrictions such as not wearing the uniform while commuting and putting it on when you arrive at the base/marina will also be specified when the Assignment to duty Request is approved.

**Question 3:**Is watchstanding by Auxiliary at Coast Guard Stations allowed with approval of OIC ?

**Answer:**All Stations work for a Sector.  Sector Commanders can approve Auxiliary watchstanding.  If an OIC has a need or would like to have an Aux member stand watch then they should work with the Sector to weigh the gain vs COVID-19 risk and make a final determination. Para 4.h (1)

**Question 4:**COVID bubble used for what duties?

**Answer:**Anywhere social distancing and wearing a mask can’t be 100% maintained.  Para 3.b

**Question 5:**If trainee for crew,, VE or PV are in same bubble can they be certified?

**Answer:**Yes, if they meet all qualification/certification requirements and all PQS signoffs are complete. Crew/Coxswain can’t be certified until a QE checkride.

**Question 6:**Can AUX members do training on Coast Guard vessels?

**Answer:**This is not specifically approved under Phase 2.  If there is an operational need the CO should work with DIRAUX to evaluate the risk vs gain and route a waiver.

**Question 7: Do** OPFAC inspections needs to be routed in AUXDATA II?

**Answer:** Yes and we encourage members to referencethe process guide that Anita and team created and reference the Facility Management help guides located on the AUXDATA II Training Resources page:  <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=IT-GROUP&category=training-resources>

**Question 8:**Emergency Response, First Responder Awareness Level Training (course 501538) was waived in Phase 1. It is now listed again in Phase 2. Do Auxiliarists now need to complete this?

**Answer:**On August 6, 2020 CAPT Johnson, BSX suspended the requirement for Auxiliary members to complete the First Responder Awareness Training before obtaining assignment to duty.  Until BSX instructs otherwise the training is still not required unless there is a specific need by an active duty unit.

**Question 9:**N95 respirators, fitted hoods and goggles Who provides this PPE and where are they available?

**Answer:**Any specific PPE above a cloth face mask, disposable gloves and hand sanitizer will need to be provided by the unit requesting/approving the Auxiliary support and requiring the PPE.

**Question 10:**Provisions of ALAUX 003/20 sections 2.a. (1)-(4), 2.b.-e, 3a.-c, and 4a.-b remain in effect.  What does this cover?

**Answer:**Here is a link to the ALAUX <http://agroup-bx.wow.uscgaux.info/Uploads_wowII/BX-GROUP/003_20_NOVEL_CORONAVIRUS__COVID_19__AUXILIARY_AWARENESS.pdf>  All ALAUX messages can be found here: <http://agroup-bx.wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=BX-GROUP&category=chdiraux-alauxs>

**Question 11:**What are the individual’s responsibilities as a member of a “Covid Bubble?”  Whose guidelines do they abide by?  USCG? Federal? State? County?

**Answer:**Phase 2 states that current D11, State, AND local government’s guidance on social and business restrictions shall be adhered to when conducting all Auxiliary activities.  That means you must abide by all guidelines or effectively the strictest.  In a worst case scenario, if an area goes to a strict shelter in place restriction due to widespread COVID-19 contraction then the member would have to abide by that and would be limited to only virtual activities even if D11 policy remains the same. As a member of a COVID Bubble members agree that prior to entering the COVID bubble they have not participated in any high risk activities as outlined by CDC and have practiced social distancing and appropriate mask wearing for 10 days prior.  Members of a Bubble also agree to follow all mask and social distancing guidelines in their day to day social interactions.  COVID Bubble members agree to only take part in Auxiliary activities where they 100% of the time may not be able to maintain social distancing and mask wearing with other members of their COVID bubble.  However, they should still practice these safety precautions, even amongst the Bubble, as much as possible.  For example on a patrol due to the size of the facility and the need to communicate over engine or wind noise members of the COVID bubble may remove their mask to facilitate proper communications even though they are within 6 feet of each other.  When a member is done relaying the message to other crew or via a radio they should put their mask back on.

**Question 12:**Who is responsible for establishing and managing the bubble?  Coxswain?  Boat Owner?  Joint?

**Answer:**The bubble should pick someone.  The form requests a POC for the bubble so that is how you identify who will manage the bubble.

**Question 13:**Will there be any limitations on the number of patrols that will be approved?

**Answer:**There will be no arbitrary limit on how many patrols will be approved but a risk vs gain evaluation must be completed for every activity so approval may vary from Sector to Sector and week to week based on COVID-19 risk.

**Question 14:**Will there be priority given by location or mission type?

**Answer:**No priority but risk vs gain will be evaluated for every patrol.

**Question 15:**When assisting a vessel in distress, are there any additional protocols or procedures that Boat Crew needs to be aware of while towing (side tow, especially) or taking someone on board?

**Answer:**This will need to be addressed by the Sector approving the patrol and utilization of Aux patrols for SAR will likely be on a case by case basis.

**Question 16:**Do all missions with multiple members require  Blood Borne Pathogens Training ?

**Answer:**No, only all members performing ordered patrol missions.  Para 4.h

**Question 17:**Are requests for duty required to be in 1 week before the requested Op day, or 1 week before the first day of the week of the Op? i.e. would a request for VSCs on Friday the 13 need to be in by Friday the 6th or Monday the 2nd?

**Answer:**1 week before the requested date of the activity the request for assignment to duty must be submitted to the appropriate DIRAUX office via the shared email inbox.  A request for VSCs on Friday the 13 needs to be in by Friday the 6th at the latest.

**Question 18:**What is the timing on an ops mission request through AD2? (prior to COVID underway orders needed to be in 15 days in advance).

**Answer:**Each Sector will set this requirement but I would assume it will be the same as prior to COVID-19.

**Question 19:**For underway orders, does the crew need to be firmed up a week in advance, or when the request is first made?

**Answer:**All crew for a patrol must be in the same COVID Bubble and should be firmed up at least a week in advance or per each Sector’s requirements.

**Question 20:**Will VE / PV sign-offs / observations be allowed if all members are in the same bubble?

**Answer:**Yes

**Question 21:**Will ops QE missions be approved for those that will go REYR this year?

**Answer:**We hope to be able to approve some Ops QE missions under Phase 2 by utilizing COVID bubbles however when a member will go into REYR will not be a consideration for approval of any assignment to duty.  OTO will be working with QEs to try to make this work.  However**, ….** Per ALAUX 032/20 AUXILIARY CURRENCY MAINTENANCE CHANGES FOR CY 2020 All annual currency maintenance requirements for CY 2020 (e.g., the two marine dealer visits required to maintain currency as a program visitor) and other-than-annual requirements that were due in CY 2020 (e.g., the 3-year check ride required to maintain currency as a coxswain if due in 2020) are waived except tests, trainings and workshops that can be completed online. Currency maintenance requirements that have been waived must now be completed by 31 December 2021 (e.g., the five vessel safety checks that were required by 31 December 2020 in order to maintain currency as a Vessel Examiner must now be completed by 31 December 2021). Currency maintenance requirements that would normally have applied in CY 2021 are effectively cancelled (e.g., a Vessel Examiner will only have to perform five vessel safety checks in CY 2021 in order to maintain currency). You can find the whole ALAUX here: <http://agroup-bx.wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=BX-GROUP&category=chdiraux-alauxs>

**Question 22:**Will having a Aux-COVID-19 High Risk Certification Form on file be a factor in determining whether a member goes REYR for the coming year due to insufficient missions completed?

**Answer:**No, please read ALAUX 032/20

**Question 23:**If a member gets a negative COVID-19 test, can they shortcut the 10 day waiting period?

**Answer:**No, not at this time due to current CG Policy