

Auxiliary New Member Course



STUDENT STUDY GUIDE

PUBLISHED FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

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NEW MEMBER COURSE - STUDENT STUDY GUIDE

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https://www.fincen.uscg.mil/secure/enrollment_form.htm

INTRODUCTION

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary is a volunteer service organization, open to both men and women who are citizens of the United States, its territories and possessions, and who are age seventeen or older. The purpose of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is to assist the Coast Guard in any of its missions except where prohibited by statute, such as in direct law enforcement and military actions.

Auxiliarists are proud of their membership and training. When you wear the uniform or fly the Auxiliary Ensign, you are a member of Team Coast Guard. Your actions as a member of this organization will reflect directly on the United States Coast Guard. In many areas, you will be the Coast Guard's only link with the public. This recognition is a PRIVILEGE as well as a RESPONSIBILITY.

As the *volunteer arm* of the Coast Guard, we volunteer time, talents, boats, radios, and aircraft. We are given special training in order to work effectively with the Coast Guard. The fellowship and satisfaction accompanying our activities are also a benefit from our service.

To aid you in your understanding of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and its missions, you will be referred to the *Auxiliary Manual*, COMDTINST M16790.1 (series) for additional information and help you answer many questions in this study guide. It will answer virtually all questions that you might have about the Auxiliary and how it functions. The Auxiliary Manual can be found on the Auxiliary web site (Manuals section) at WWW.CGAUX.ORG

Information is also available in the *New Member Reference Guide*. Since the information in that reference guide does not always correspond to the chapters in this Study Guide, you may need to leave some questions unanswered until locating the information. During the exam, you may use the *Student Study Guide* with the *New Member Reference Guide* and/or *Auxiliary Manual*.

PROLOGUE

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (USCG)

The history of the Coast Guard is almost as old as that of the United States. On 4 August 1790, President George Washington signed a bill passed by Congress, authorizing the construction of ten boats; this was the beginning of the Coast Guard. First named the Revenue Marine, and then changed to the Revenue Cutter Service, its mission was to guard the new country's coastline against smugglers.

On 28 January 1915, President Woodrow Wilson approved the act authorizing the merger of the Revenue Cutter Service and the U.S. Lifesaving Service, which was a logical consolidation since both services had worked closely together within the Treasury Department for nearly a century. Their common aim had been to protect life and property from the ravages of the sea. The "new" service was named the United States Coast Guard.

As provided in the Congressional Act of 28 January 1915, the Coast Guard is a military service at all times—a branch of the armed forces of the United States. Because of this status, in times of war or whenever so directed by the President, the Coast Guard operates as a separate service under the Department of the Navy, at which time the Commandant reports to the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations.

On 1 April 1967, after nearly 177 years in the Treasury Department, the Coast Guard moved to the new Department of Transportation. Then on 1 March 2003, the Coast Guard moved again, this time to the new Department of Homeland Security. The Commandant, as Chief of the Service, is responsible to the Secretary, who, as a member of the President's cabinet, gives the Coast Guard top representation in the Executive Branch of the government. The overall authority for Coast Guard Auxiliary administration is vested by law in the Commandant.

The Coast Guard has a wide variety of missions. Properly trained Auxiliarists assist with many of these, a summary of which follows:

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR): One of the oldest missions, rescuing those in peril at sea has priority over all other Coast Guard peacetime missions. The purpose of this mission is to reduce loss of life, injury, and property damage on the high seas and in U.S. waters.

PORTS, WATERWAYS, AND COASTAL SECURITY (PWCS): The aim of this program is to safeguard the nation's ports, waterways, waterfront facilities, vessels, personnel, and property, and to prevent accidental or intentional damage, disruption, destruction, or injury.

MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (MEP): This program is intended to lessen the damage caused by pollutants released in the coastal zone. It also aids in national and international pollution response planning and makes every effort to recover the cost of such a response to the federal government.

ICE OPERATIONS (ICEOPS): Conducting both polar and domestic ice operations, the Coast Guard is the only federal agency operating icebreakers, which provide logistical and oceanographic support to a number of other programs. It also conducts the International Ice Patrol, which was started in 1912 after the ocean liner TITANIC struck an iceberg and sank.

NAVIGATION SYSTEMS (NS): This program sets up, operates, and maintains aids to navigation throughout the United States and in other areas of the world.

MARINE SAFETY (MS): Two major activities comprise this program. Commercial Vessel Safety (CVS) affects those engaged in commercial or scientific activity in the marine environment. The mission of the Recreational Boating Safety Program (RBS) includes activities of the Auxiliary conducted on behalf of the federal, state, and local governments to improve the knowledge, skills, and operating environment of the recreational boater.

DEFENSE READINESS (DR): This program ensures the Coast Guard can function as an effective armed force, in both peace and war.

ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS AND TREATIES (ELT): In 1790, Alexander Hamilton formed a "fleet of cutters" to suppress smuggling. Today, drug interdiction, migrant interdiction, and fisheries enforcement has made this program one of the Coast Guard's most visible missions.

The operational unit (e.g. cutters, stations, aircraft) is the basic element in the Coast Guard operational chain. Besides operational units, the Coast Guard also maintains support units such as the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut; the Coast Guard Institute in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; the Coast Guard Yard in Curtis Bay, Maryland; training centers; supply centers; and others.

Despite the name changes, the Coast Guard has kept its identity as an organization. In point of active service, the Coast Guard is the oldest of the nation's seagoing armed forces.

P-1	Currently, the Coast Guard operates under	r the Department of
P-2	The overall authority for the administration in the	on of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is vested by law
P-3	The Coast Guard Academy is located in _ the Coast Guard Institute in	and
P-4	The the Coast Guard and is the one most close	_ mission is the one of the oldest missions of ely identified with the Auxiliary.
P-5	The Coast Guard at all times constitutes a	of the Armed Forces.

HISTORY, PURPOSE, & ADMINISTRATION OF THE USCG AUXILIARY

Congress established a "United States Coast Guard Reserve" in 1939 to be administered by the Commandant of the Coast Guard. It was composed of unpaid, volunteer citizens of the United States who owned motorboats and yachts. They were to aid the Coast Guard in promoting small boat safety. Congressional action in 1941 created a military *Reserve* of the Coast Guard, and the original volunteer reserve was renamed the *Coast Guard Auxiliary*. The Auxiliary assists the Coast Guard in all its missions except direct law enforcement and military operations.

Keeping records is a part of various Auxiliary missions and activities. This record keeping is accomplished through the Auxiliary Data (AUXDATA) and Auxiliary Information (AUXINFO) Systems.

THE AUXDATA AND AUXINFO SYSTEMS

AUXDATA is the system used for data entry of all unit information, all members and their personal information, facilities, qualifications, and performance statistics. AUXINFO is the best means for retrieving any type of performance report about a member or unit of the Auxiliary.

Its function as a management tool can be effective only if members make accurate and timely activity reports for input. Auxiliary forms and their associated descriptions and instructions can be found in the forms section of the Auxiliary National website, (HTTP://FORMS.CGAUX.ORG). You will gradually become familiar with the forms as you engage in different activities. There are a few, however, you may encounter early in your Auxiliary experience; three of them are discussed below.

FORM: ANSC-7028—CHANGE OF MEMBER INFORMATION

Some of the information you furnish the Auxiliary will change, and this form is used to ensure your data are kept current. Examples would include changes in your address, phone number, occupation, and the person you want to have contacted in the event of an emergency. Each individual member submits the form through the flotilla. The instructions for completing the form are printed on it.

FORM: ANSC-7030—ACTIVITY REPORT-MISSION

Once you become trained to perform one or more of the Auxiliary's major activities or missions, you will be expected to report the work done in those areas. For example, if you become qualified as a boat crewmember, you will need to fill out a Form ANSC 7030 when you complete a patrol mission. This form asks for such information as the location of your mission and the hours spent actually performing the activity. It is vital to the Auxiliary and to the Coast Guard that you submit this information promptly. Future plans and actions may be based upon studies from these reports. Your flotilla's Information Services Officer (FSO-IS) is your source for help in filling out forms.

FORM: ANSC-7029—MEMBER ACTIVITY LOG

You probably won't need to use Form **ANSC-7030** yet, but you do need to ask for a copy of Form **ANSC-7029** because you will be using it right away. The hours you volunteer are valuable to the Coast Guard. With these records, the Auxiliary demonstrates service, which is an important resource for our nation. All activities that are not reported on some other form should be tallied on this form. Instructions for its use are printed on the back of the form. All of your hours, however reported, count toward earning the "Coast Guard Sustained Auxiliary Service Award," which is discussed in the *Auxiliary Manual*.

Examples of activities you would record would include attendance at meetings, training, work on committees, and time spent on preparation and travel for all missions. Remember, if the hours you spent were reported on a different form, they should not be "double reported" on the **ANSC-7029.** If in doubt, ask your Flotilla Information Services Officer (FSO-IS).

It is a good idea to enter your hours on this form promptly after performing the activity, while details are still fresh in your mind. It is always a good idea for you to keep a copy. You will be able to keep track of your progress toward the Coast Guard Sustained Auxiliary Service Award ribbon. The most important thing, of course, is that your records will enable the Auxiliary and the Coast Guard to see where the real work is being done.

For additional information on the history, purpose, and administration of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, read Chapter 1 in the *Auxiliary Manual* (COMDTINST M16790.1 (series)) or *New Member Reference Guide*.

	The concept for communications among staff officers at all levels is called
,	In transacting Auxiliary business, directions from the top and communications from the bottom to the top must flow via the
,	The organizational levels of the Auxiliary are,, and
	The Auxiliary is not involved in direct

AUXILIARY MISSIONS

This chapter contains those Auxiliary programs and activities of a permanent or continuous nature. They are essential and basic to operating the Auxiliary and supporting the Coast Guard. Their emphasis will ensure the continued success of the Auxiliary as a recognized national boating safety organization. From time to time, long-term programs and short-term projects may be established on a national or district/regional basis.

For additional information on the Auxiliary's missions, read Chapter 2 in the *Auxiliary Manual* or *New Member Reference Guide*.

The "Four Cornerstones" of the Auxiliary are:,,,
Boat examinations leading to the award of the Auxiliary Vessel Safety Check decal may be made only by an Auxiliary member who has been qualified as a
Public education is the best approach to
The Coast Guard Auxiliary enhances the environmental awareness of recreational boaters through
Auxiliary operations cover the use of members and their facilities in, and missions.

MEMBERSHIP

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS - The Auxiliary is an organization of volunteers. Membership is open to citizens of the United States and its territories and possessions, who are 17 years of age or older and have received a favorable determination on their Personnel Security Investigation (PSI). Facility (radio station, boat, or aircraft) ownership is desirable, but not mandatory. Individuals with special training or experience in any Auxiliary program area are also desirable for Auxiliary membership. The same is true for any individual who has specific skills helpful to the organization. Auxiliary membership is also open to all or former members of any of the uniformed services and their Reserve components.

MEMBER PRIVILEGES - New members are entitled to attend all meetings, training sessions, and flotilla social events, plus they may vote on any flotilla matter. In addition, new members may wear the Coast Guard Auxiliary uniform and fly the Auxiliary Ensign on a currently inspected surface facility or a vessel owned by Auxiliarists that have successfully completed a Vessel Safety Check and that display a current VSC decal. For additional information on Auxiliary membership, read the following sections in Chapter 3 of the *Auxiliary Manual* or *New Member Reference Guide*:

3-1	An applicant for membership in the Auxiliary must be approved for enrollment by the
3-2	Authority for disenrollment rests with the Commandant through the District Commander; therefore, no member may disenroll another member.
3-3	A member may fly the Auxiliary Ensign only if it is a (an)
3-4	You are member of Flotilla 17, Division 2, of the Northern Region of the Fifth Coast Guard District. Your complete Auxiliary Flotilla Number would be
	·

AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Auxiliary has four basic administrative and supervisory levels with Auxiliary elected and appointed officers at each level. Chapter 4 of the *Auxiliary Manual* contains the general authority and duties of Auxiliary officers. These duties may be further specified in other documents, provided they do not conflict with the provisions of the *Auxiliary Manual*. In addition to the manual, additional information may be found in Commandant Instructions and publications, District instructions and procedures guides, and the Auxiliary National Program. The four administrative levels are flotilla, division, district, and national.

The senior elected officer of each unit, at each level, appoints a staff. These staff officers aid in the administration of that unit. Staff officer designations show not only the staff function, but also the staff level at which the officer functions. Staff positions at the flotilla level have the prefix "FSO-," at the division level "SO-," and at the district level "DSO-."

Below is a list of all authorized flotilla staff officers. Also included is a brief description of the responsibility for each.

MEMBER TRAINING (FSO-MT) As the name implies, this officer is responsible for administering all training of flotilla members. This includes boat crew, instructor, and vessel examiner training. Conducting all required Operations, Instructor, and Vessel Examiner Workshops is another FSO-MT responsibility. For these, the FSO-MT must coordinate with the Operations, Public Education, and Vessel Examiner Staff Officers. This position is very important to a growing flotilla and requires a dedicated, imaginative, and industrious individual.

PUBLIC EDUCATION (**FSO-PE**) This officer is responsible for administering and scheduling public education courses. Such work includes getting class space, instructors, and course materials. The FSO-PE must work with the FSO-MT to ensure properly trained instructors are available for the flotilla. This staff officer also coordinates with the Public Affairs Staff Officer (FSO-PA) for advanced publicity for the public education courses.

OPERATIONS (**FSO-OP**) The Operations Staff Officer is responsible for getting facilities and crews to meet the patrol needs requested by the Coast Guard. The FSO-OP must also work with the FSO-MT to be sure properly trained members are available to conduct the desired patrols.

COMMUNICATIONS (FSO-CM) This officer is primarily concerned with Auxiliary fixed land and land mobile radio facilities. The duties include the annual inspection of these facilities and their proper operation. The FSO-CM works with the FSO-MT to have the Communication Specialty Course (AUXCOM) or Telecommunications Watchstander Performance Qualification Standard (PQS) taught to those desiring to participate in Auxiliary communications.

HUMAN RESOURCES (FSO-HR) This officer has two goals: (1) to *recruit*, and (2) to *retain* members. The FSO-HR works primarily with the FSO-PE and FSO-VE to recruit new members for the flotilla. The PE and VE Programs offer the most exposure of the flotilla to the boating public. The Instructors and Vessel Examiners are the prime recruiters for new members. The FSO-MT is a key player in the retention efforts of the flotilla. Members **expect** training and involvement. If training is not done, the flotilla will lose members.

VESSEL EXAMINER (FSO-VE) The FSO-VE is responsible for administering the Vessel Examiner (VE) program. This effort includes scheduling Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) stations, particularly during VSC month. The FSO-VE works with the FSO-MT to be sure that properly trained Vessel Examiners are available for the flotilla. The FSO-VE coordinates with the Public Affairs Staff Officer (FSO-PA) for advance publicity about the VE Program and the VSC station schedule. The FSO-VE aids the FSO-OP to have all vessel facilities inspected before the district facility inspection deadline.

MARINE SAFETY (FSO-MS) This officer arranges for the flotilla to provide assistance, as needed, to the Coast Guard marine safety and environmental protection missions. The FSO-MS works in cooperation with OP, PE, PA, CM, and MT to assist in presenting workshops, seminars, and training sessions, by bringing all program information to the attention of the membership, and working in cooperation with OP, PE, PA, CM, and MT to assist in presenting workshops, seminars, and training sessions, by bringing all program information to the attention of the membership, and. in addition, encourages public outreach in such areas as the Sea Partners program.

NAVIGATION SYSTEMS (FSO-NS) The FSO-NS Officer oversees the flotilla's Chart Updating (CU) and Aids to Navigation (ATON) efforts. The job includes checking Private Aids to Navigation (PATONs). For this mission, the flotilla must have enough qualified Aids Verifiers (AV).

PUBLIC AFFAIRS (FSO-PA) This staff officer works in cooperation with other staff officers to get maximum local publicity on flotilla activities.

PUBLICATIONS (FSO-PB) The FSO-PB acts as editor of the unit's publication. All flotillas should have some type of publication, or newsletter, to keep members informed of all flotilla activities. A flotilla publication is important for members who miss a meeting. The publication need not be fancy—just a simple mailing of reminders about coming events to each member, made on a regular basis, will do the job.

FINANCE (**FSO-FN**) The Flotilla Finance Staff Officer is the bookkeeper of the flotilla's finances. The FSO-FN collects members' dues and PE book sale funds, and maintains the flotilla's checking account. The FSO-FN must promptly pay all bills for Auxiliary dues and other obligations. This staff officer is responsible for preparing an annual budget and for submitting monthly financial statements.

COMMUNICATION SERVICES (FSO-CS) This officer promotes development and support of the unit's eTechnology resources. This includes support of the unit website, monitoring applicable email communications and relaying them to members without email capabilities, as well as insuring that Public Education course schedules are maintained on the appropriate websites, assisting the FSO-HR, FSO-MT and members with web based resources, PowerPoint, and other technologies.

INFORMATION SERVICES (FSO-IS) While the FSO-FN is the monetary bookkeeper of the flotilla, the FSO-IS provides data bookkeeping of all flotilla activity data. The FSO-IS is a key player in monitoring AUXDATA and AUXINFO systems for the flotilla.

MATERIALS (FSO-MA) The Auxiliary Association Inc. (CGAUXA, Inc) operates the Auxiliary Center (AUXCEN), and the Coast Guard operates the Auxiliary National Supply Center (ANSC). The FSO-MA, if designated by the Flotilla Commander, orders items from ANSC, such as stationery and Coast Guard training publications that are provided by the Coast Guard. The FSO-MA also assists members in purchasing items from the AUXCEN through the District Materials Center, operated by the DSO-MA.

SECRETARY/RECORDS (**FSO-SR**) The FSO-SR prepares and distributes the minutes of all flotilla meetings. The Flotilla Commander may assign other flotilla records for the FSO-SR to maintain, such as rosters and standing rules.

PROGRAM VISITOR (FSO-PV) The Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program's <u>Program Visitor</u> provides boating safety information to marine dealers. Auxiliarists visit specific dealers on a regular basis and supply them with information and Auxiliary publications regarding boating safety, Auxiliary public education courses, and Vessel Safety Checks.

For additional information on the organizational structure of the Auxiliary, read Chapter 4 of the *Auxiliary Manual* or *New Member Reference Guide*:

4-1	Theis the basic unit of the Auxiliary. The two elected officers a	t
	the flotilla level are the (FC) and the	
	(VFC)	
4-2	At the division level, the correct acronym for the Division Commander and the Division	on
	Vice Commander are and	
4-3	The correct acronym for the Flotilla Staff Officer is, and for the Division St	taff
	Officer, it is	
4-4	The FSO-MT is thestaff officer for	
4-5	The SO-OP is the staff officer for	
	Sum of the	
4-6	The Public Education Officer at the flotilla level is designated by the acronym	-
4-7	The	
	provides boating safety information to marine dealers.	

REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

The Auxiliary is a volunteer organization established by Congress and administered by the Coast Guard. Members need to be aware of the organization as intended by Congress. From basic laws comes the authority of the Commandant to promulgate pertinent instructions and regulations to administer the Auxiliary properly within the framework of the Coast Guard. *Title 14 United States Code (USC)—Coast Guard* provides the basis for authorization of the Auxiliary.

For further information on regulations and policies, read Chapter 5 of the *Auxiliary Manual* or *New Member Reference Guide*:

Official Mail may be used for notices of Auxiliary meetings as well as requests for lodging reservations and conference registration for official meetings. TRUE FALSE
Unofficial mail includes mailing personal information between members. TRUE FALSE
As a matter of general policy, a roster of names and addresses of Auxiliary members sha NOT be made available to
As a general policy, subject to IRS regulations, tax deductions may be claimed for cost of uniforms and their maintenance. TRUE FALSE
Section 832, Title 14, United States Code is the authority for compensation of Auxiliarists in the case of or
Auxiliary members may appear before legislative hearings as private citizens; however, they are not authorized to wear the Auxiliarynor in any way indicate

COAST GUARD and COAST GUARD AUXILIARY SUPPORT & BASIC MATERIALS

AUXILIARY NATIONAL SUPPLY CENTER (ANSC)—A private company under contract to the Coast Guard operates the ANSC, which is located in Granite City, Illinois. The ANSC serves as a central stocking point for CG/CG Auxiliary stationery, forms, posters, ribbons, medals, publications, and manuals. Items appropriate for Auxiliary use are provided, at no cost, to Auxiliary units. Only the Flotilla Commander (FC) and the Flotilla Materials Staff Officer (FSO-MA) are authorized to order materials directly from ANSC.

AUXILIARY CENTER (AUXCEN)—Located in St. Louis, Missouri, the AUXCEN is owned and operated by the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc. for the sole benefit of supporting Auxiliary members in each district. District Materials Centers are stocked from these supplies, ordered by the District Materials Officers. The AUXCEN stocks all types of accessories, replacement ribbons and medals, and insignia for uniforms and civilian wear. This stock includes Auxiliary flags, pennants, burgees, etc. Public education course material is also stocked by the AUXCEN. Members cannot order directly; ask your FSO-MA or FC how to order materials supplied by your District Materials Center.

For specific information, read Chapter 6 in the *Auxiliary Manual* or *New Member Reference Guide*:

Who may order items from the Auxiliary National Supply Center (ANSC)?
Items from the Auxiliary Center (AUXCEN) are available for sale through
Auxiliary insignia, flags, jewelry, and Public Education materials are available for purchase at
Auxiliary stationary, forms, posters, publications, and manuals are supplied by the Coast Guard from the
You desire a supply of Mission Activity Reports (ANSC-7030). You should contact you local

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is guided by the current equal opportunity policies of the Commandant of the Coast Guard. No person shall be subject to discrimination in the Auxiliary or its programs because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability.

For more detailed information on the programs and resources available to you, read Chapter 7 of the *Auxiliary Manual* or *New Member Reference Guide*:

	WPLETE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS: What does the acronym CGAUX/CRC mean?	
7-2	What is the role of the CGAUX/CRC?	
7-3	The Sexual Harassment Policy Statement ensures all those engaged in official buwith the Coast Guard have the right to an environment free of and	ısiness
7-4	Any military member or civilian employee who makes deliberate or repeated unverbal comments, gestures, or physical contact, which is characteristically of a sonature, engages in	

MEMBER TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

To enhance an Auxiliarist's competence and professionalism, members should further their training. Member training is considered the "backbone" of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and enables members to contribute fully to Auxiliary activities. Member training is the primary responsibility of the FSO-MT. However, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring member training and program participation rests with the Flotilla Commander. Many members join the Auxiliary to receive advanced training, and the Flotilla Commander should ensure this opportunity is available.

Be sure your FSO-MT and Flotilla Commander (FC) are made aware of your areas of interest!

For information on Auxiliary training opportunities, read Chapter 8 of the *Auxiliary Manual* or *New Member Reference Guide*. In addition, Coast Guard "C" school level training is available to Auxiliarists. Access this information through the Coast Guard Auxiliary C-school portal online at https://SCHOOL.AUXSERVICES.ORG/.

The two skill levels in the Boat Crew Qualification program are
and
To retain qualification in the Operations Program, the member must be signed off by a QE every third year. TRUE FALSE
In the Boat Crew Qualification Program, the Director of Auxiliary appoints a, who approves Boat Crew tasks for candidates.
To achieve AUXOP Status, a member must complete a minimum of credits from the three categories of courses.
To be eligible to receive Coast Guard surface patrol orders, you must be qualified as a
To become qualified as an Instructor, a member must complete the
Course.

REIMBURSEMENT OF AUXILIARISTS

As volunteers, we receive no pay. Most of our expenses are not reimbursed by the Auxiliary or the Coast Guard. For example, we don't receive any funding for travel to flotilla meetings or to other local activities. As you become more involved with the organization, you will learn there are some instances where reimbursement is made. If you are properly assigned to duty by a Coast Guard command authority and issued Coast Guard orders to temporary additional duty (TAD), or you are given reimbursable patrol orders for your boat, you will be allowed reimbursement for certain expenses which will be described at the time you get your orders. Some orders, however, are termed "non-reimbursable."

Part of the material in Chapter 9 of the *Auxiliary Manual* will apply only when you become active in certain programs, such as on-the-water operations. However, the chapter also discusses "Minor Damage and Loss claims," and other material of interest to even the newest member.

For more information, read Chapter 9 of the Auxiliary Manual or New Member Reference Guide:

9-1	Reimbursement for Auxiliary travel is to be consistent with Federal Travel Regulations (FTR) foremployees.
9-2	To be eligible for reimbursement for travel, the Auxiliarist must be traveling on issued by an appropriate Coast Guard
	official.
9-3	To file a claim for minor damage or loss, the member must use the proper form and include a statement explaining

UNIFORMS

All Auxiliarists are authorized and encouraged to wear various Auxiliary uniforms. Members must wear a uniform when participating in many programs and activities. For detailed information on uniforms, read Chapter 10 in the *Auxiliary Manual* or *New Member Reference Guide*. For a brief description of the uniforms a new member might wear, refer to the following sections:

Basic description Procurement When required Service Dress Blue Winter Dress Blue Tropical Blue ODU Blue Blazer

1	The Winter Dress Blue uniform may be authorized or prescribed as uniform.	an alternative for
2	Enhanced shoulder boards are worn on the shirt with the uniform, and the	
3	Name three situations when a uniform is required. A. B. C.	
4	The primary working uniform is the	
5	Members may order uniforms by mail from the Coast Guard in Woodbine, New Jersey.	
6	st Guard officer uniforms and Auxiliary uniforms are very similar except for the r of the and The color on the Coast Guarders' uniform is, and on the Auxiliary uniform it is	

AUXILIARY MEMBER RECOGNITION

Auxiliary members, as volunteers, receive no direct compensation for the many hours of time and effort they donate to the Coast Guard. The recognition of an Auxiliarist's service, through the presentation of timely and appropriate awards, is essential to the success of the Auxiliary program. In many respects, the recognition received through these awards can be considered a "paycheck." The service and actions of the Auxiliarist should receive the appropriate recognition and awards in as timely a fashion as possible.

For general information, read Chapter 11 in the *Auxiliary Manual* or *New Member Reference Guide*.

11-1	The Coast Guard Sustained Auxiliary Servicentributed a total of	Service Award is given to Auxiliarists who have hours of Auxiliary Service.	
11-2	•	ry Program Ribbons are awarded in three areas of service. These programs are, and	
11-3	Who can recommend that a member be considered for an award?		

CONCLUSION

In a short period of time you have learned what the members of a flotilla do as a group, how we fit into the larger picture of the Auxiliary, and what it takes to become a contributing member. Each flotilla requires its members to be ACTIVE and not just joiners!

There are several items you should consider before enrolling in the Auxiliary:

- 1. Do you understand the monetary investment in terms of dues, uniforms, and possibly equipment for operations? Do you understand that you may forfeit all of it if your Personnel Security Investigation (PSI) determination is unfavorable?
- 2. Are you willing to attend and to become involved in flotilla meetings?
- 3. Will you consider taking advantage of the training available to you in order to enhance your knowledge of boating safety, as well as your contribution to flotilla activities?

If your answers are "Yes, Yes, and Yes," then we need you; we need your involvement, and we are looking forward to your membership!

WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE?

You will be scheduled for a short examination at your earliest convenience. The format is multiple-choice. For each question, you will be provided with four possible choices from which to select the correct answer. This test is open-book, but don't make the mistake of not preparing for it. The idea is not just to pass a test; rather, it is to be certain you are familiar with the information a new Auxiliarist needs to know.

The passing score on this examination is 80%. In other words, you will need to answer 24 or more of the 30 questions correctly. For an open-book exam, that's a reasonable goal. If you are comfortable with the material in your study questions, you should have no problem with the actual examination.

Your completed application will then be sent to the Director of Auxiliary. You will receive an Employee ID Number and your membership card will follow providing your PSI is determined to be favorable. In the meantime, plan to attend the activities your flotilla has scheduled. You will be introduced to the various elected and appointed officers who will help you become actively involved.

You are about to enter upon an exciting and rewarding experience. You have an opportunity to serve others in a variety of ways while adding to your own skills. Equally important, however, you are also going to be able to meet a lot of new friends who share your values and interests. It's a lot of fun!

WELCOME ABOARD!