



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

01 APR 2024
FM: CHDIRAUX
TO: ALAUX
ALAUX 014/24

Subj: PROMULGATION OF THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM HANDBOOK, 16500.16

Ref: (a) Coast Guard Auxiliary Aids to Navigation Program, COMDTINST M16500.16A
(b) Aids to Navigation (ATON) Verifier Performance Qualification Standard (PQS), dated 14 July 2011
(c) Coast Guard Auxiliary Aids to Navigation Program Handbook, 16500.16

1. This ALAUX announces the cancellation of references (a) and (b) and the promulgation of reference (c).
2. Reference (c) was signed by the Chief, Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety (CG-BSX) on 28 March 2024. Major changes include:
 - a. Converted from a manual to a handbook.
 - b. Added new program naming “Auxiliary Navigation Systems Program.”
 - c. Added annual currency maintenance requirements for AV-PQS certified members.
 - d. Added new Mission Codes: Chart/Coast Pilot Updates (Mission Code 33) and ATON Program Training (Mission Code 34).
 - e. Removed old active duty qualification Aid to Navigation Technician (NE) and replaced with the new qualification codes Aid to Navigation Technician (ATN-AT) or dpw Trained Minor Aid Technician (ATN-TT).
 - f. Added Aids to Navigation Verifier (AV) Performance Qualification Standard (PQS) to the handbook as an enclosure.
3. No paper distribution will be made of this Handbook. An electronic version will be posted on the Chief Director of Auxiliary section of the Coast Guard Auxiliary web site:
<https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=BX-GROUP&category=guides-and-handbooks>. If the cited web link does not work, then access should be attempted by copying and pasting or typing the web site address into the user’s internet browser.

4. Annual currency maintenance requirements, in accordance with Chapter 2, Section C in reference (c), will not start until calendar year 2025 and go into effect on 01 January 2025. From that point moving forward, all members certified Aids to Navigation Verifier – with PQS (AV-PQS) in AUXDATA II will be required to maintain and meet the annual currency maintenance requirements to avoid being placed in Required Yearly, Not Met (REYR) status.

5. Members currently possessing the qualification code “Aid to Navigation Technician” in AUXDATA II may continue to retain the qualification as long as the member has maintained their certification with the Coast Guard Aids to Navigation (ATON) unit Commanding Officer/Officer in Charge and the ATON unit still has a need for the Auxiliary member. Directors of Auxiliary should work with the Chain of Leadership and Management of those members possessing the “Aid to Navigation Technician” qualification code and ensure the member may retain the qualification code or have the qualification code archived.

6. Internet release is authorized.

For many reasons including the value of keeping communication lines clear and open as well as facilitating access to training and educational tools, all Auxiliarists are urged to have their own email address and to keep it updated in AUXDATA II.

*All ALAUX's are posted on the Chief Director of Auxiliary web site located at: [CHDIRAUX](#)
[ALAUX](#)

If you have a question regarding this ALAUX, please seek resolution within your Chain of Leadership and Management (COLM) including up to your servicing District Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX). If your question still cannot be resolved after that, then please email CGAUX@uscg.mil.