

The Hanson-Milone Act

8 January 2025

Boating Safety Certificate required on board

John Collins, SBOS ADSO-PE 22 January 2025



Prior Mass Boating Safety Certificate

Required in most states for adults, but not in Massachusetts, for adults.

Youth who are between 12 and 15 years of age must complete an approved basic boating safety course in order to operate a motorboat without adult supervision. Youth have to be at least 12 to get a boating safety certificate. This still applies.

Personal watercraft users who are 16 or 17 years of age must also complete a boating safety course. Youth less than 16 years of age are not allowed to operate personal watercraft. This still applies.



New Mass Safety Certificate Law

A Boating Safety Certificate from the Massachusetts Environmental Police is required if you were:

Born after 1 January 1989

Comply by 1 April 2026

Born before on or before 1 January 1989

Comply by 1 April 2028



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Boating Safety Certificate

John B. Boater

Eye Color: Brown

Course Provider: MEP


Hair Color: Brown

Valid From: 4/13/2013

DOB: 7/28/2000

Card Number: 14234567

Gender: M

 NASBLA USCG Recognized



Reciprocity

For visiting boaters, all states, territories, and provinces will recognize boating education cards that meet NASBLA requirements and Canadian Pleasure Craft Operator Cards that meet Transport Canada's requirements. Some states have slight variations, so check before you go.