

***U.S. Geological Survey Manual***

**Appendix 31-C**

**Part 445-2-H Chapter 31**

## Motorboat Operator Certification Course (MOCC) Standards

1.  **Course Description**. The MOCC is a course targeted toward individuals whose jobs require operating watercraft for the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). It stresses the learning of specific motorboat handling techniques and knowledge through extensive hands-on practical exercises and instruction, with a minimum of classroom presentation.

2.  **Course Objectives**. The MOCC objectives are:

A.  Provide attendees with specific skills and knowledge needed to safely operate watercraft.

B.  Familiarize attendees with state-of-the-art watercraft safety equipment and other gear through demonstration and actual use.

C.  Allow attendees to demonstrate, through written examination and practical demonstration, that they have an adequate grasp of motorboat handling techniques and knowledge to safely operate a motorboat.

3.  **Course Length**. The MOCC will include a minimum of 24 instructional hours. Course instructional hours may be increased to address specific operational needs.

4.  **Minimum Subject Areas**. The following mandatory subject areas will be presented in the MOCC:

A. Agency watercraft policies.

B.  Required safety equipment.

C. Motorboats and motorboat maintenance.

D.  Trailers and trailer maintenance.

E. Navigation aids/rules of the road.

F. Emergency operations.

G. Fire suppression.

H. Motorboat orientation/Marlinspike.

I. Motorboat at-speed and low-speed maneuvering.

J. Alongside maneuvering.

K. Trailering.

L.  Towing.

M. Recreational boating.

N. Invasive species.

5.  **Other Standards**.

A. A maximum student/instructor ratio of 3:1 will be maintained during practical exercises and evaluations to ensure student safety and to ensure attendees obtain necessary operating techniques and knowledge.

B. MOCC curriculum is based on “building-block” instruction, as outlined in the MOCC Instructor’s Manual. MOCC Instructors shall make every effort to follow this structure.

6. **Optional MOCC Standards**.

A. Students desiring to complete MOCC may (at their option) receive alternate classroom training through DOI Learn by enrolling in the MOCC Blended Learning Tel-Module. Students may take this alternate Web-based training at their own pace and, upon completion with a passing grade of 80 percent or higher, will receive course credit within DOI Learn. Within 90 days thereafter, student(s) must locate an MOCC Instructor to provide the remaining practical skill proficiency tests. Upon successful completion of the remaining practicals and successful completion of the MOCC proctored final exam, students will receive their MOCC certificate.

B. The Tel-Module developed by USGS as an optional format from the traditional MOCC format and has received reciprocity from all other DOI bureaus.