

(e) An applicant who possesses a Radar-Observer endorsement, resides in a remote geographic area, and can substantiate to the satisfaction of the OCMI that the applicant's absence will disrupt normal movement of commerce, or that the applicant cannot attend an approved Radar-Observer renewal course, may have his or her endorsement renewed upon successful completion of an examination administered by the Coast Guard, or by a third party acceptable to the Coast Guard.

(f) A Radar-Observer endorsement issued under this section is valid for 5 years after the month of issuance of the certificate of training from a course approved by the Coast Guard.

(g) A Radar-Observer endorsement may be renewed at any time.

(h) An applicant for renewal of a license or MMC that does not need a Radar-Observer endorsement may renew without meeting the requirements for the endorsement.

(i) An applicant seeking to raise the grade of a license or MMC endorsement or increase its scope, where the increased grade or scope requires a Radar-Observer certificate, may use an expired certificate to fulfill that requirement.

[CGD 94-041, 62 FR 11305, Mar. 11, 1997, as amended by USCG-2006-26202, 73 FR 52795, Sept. 11, 2008; USCG-2006-24371, 74 FR 11248, Mar. 16, 2009]

#### § 11.482 Assistance towing.

(a) This section contains the requirements to qualify for an endorsement authorizing a mariner to engage in assistance towing. The endorsement applies to all MMCs except master and mate (pilot) of towing vessels and master or mate authorizing service on inspected vessels over 200 gross tons. Holders of any of these endorsements may engage in assistance towing within the scope of their MMC or license.

(b) An applicant for an assistance towing endorsement shall pass a written examination demonstrating his or her knowledge of assistance towing safety, equipment, and procedures.

(c) The holder of a license or MMC for master, mate, or operator endorsed for assistance towing is authorized to engage in assistance towing on any

vessel within the scope of the license or MMC.

(d) The period of validity of the endorsement is the same as the license or MMC on which it is included, and it may be renewed with the MMC.

[CGD 87-017, 53 FR 18562, May 24, 1988, as amended by USCG-1999-6224, 64 FR 63235, Nov. 19, 1999; USCG-2006-24371, 74 FR 11248, Mar. 16, 2009]

#### § 11.491 Officer endorsements for service on offshore supply vessels.

Each officer endorsements for service on offshore supply vessels (OSVs) authorizes service on OSVs as defined in 46 U.S.C. 2101(19) and as interpreted under 46 U.S.C. 14104(b), subject to any restrictions placed on the license or MMC.

[CGD 95-062, 62 FR 34532, June 26, 1997, as amended by USCG-2006-24371, 74 FR 11248, Mar. 16, 2009]

#### § 11.493 Master (OSV).

(a) Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this section, to qualify for an endorsement as Master (OSV), an applicant shall present evidence that he or she meets the appropriate requirements of STCW Regulation II/2.

(b) The OCMI may exempt an applicant from meeting any requirement under STCW Regulation II/2 that the OCMI determines to be inappropriate or unnecessary for service on an OSV, or that the applicant meets under the equivalency provisions of Article IX of STCW.

[CGD 95-062, 62 FR 34532, June 26, 1997, as amended by USCG-2006-24371, 74 FR 11248, Mar. 16, 2009]

#### § 11.495 Chief Mate (OSV).

(a) Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this section, to qualify for an endorsement as Chief Mate (OSV), an applicant shall present evidence that he or she meets the appropriate requirements of STCW Regulation II/2.

(b) The OCMI may exempt an applicant from meeting any requirement under STCW Regulation II/2 that the OCMI determines to be inappropriate or unnecessary for service on an OSV, or that the applicant meets under the