

• **FAQ's: Masters Upgrade**

MASTER – Master licenses are issued in 25, 50 or 100 GT increments	
<p>INLAND For inspected and uninspected vessels on inland waters. Requires 360 days experience on a boat. No offshore time needed. Minimum age is 19. Citizenship required.</p> <p>With OUPV Endorsement Lets you operate a 6-pack vessel to 100 miles offshore. Requires 90 days experience offshore.</p> <p>With MATE Endorsement Lets you operate a 6-pack vessel to 200 miles offshore. Requires 180 days experience offshore.</p>	<p>NEAR COASTAL For inspected and uninspected vessels both inland and offshore out to 200 miles. Requires 720 days experience on a boat. Minimum 360 days offshore. Minimum age is 19. Citizenship required.</p>

Masters Upgrade

The USCG Master's License is the highest level license that you can earn. This license allows you to operate inspected vessels - carrying 7 passengers or more – (like dinner boats, water taxis, ferries, dive boats, party boats, etc.) as well as uninspected (6-pack) vessels. Depending on your experience, it will be issued as a 25, 50, or 100-ton license. The USCG does not require that you get a Six-Pack License before you get your Masters. You only need 360 days of sea service on any boat (recreational or commercial) since the age of 16, complete the OUPV (6-pack) and master courses, and you can skip the Six-Pack and be issued your Masters license!

Since you already hold an OUPV, sea time already in your file is counted. Sea time before and after your “time on file” is also counted.

If the PHYSICAL that is in your file is more than 36 months old (at the time you apply), you'll need to have it updated. If the DRUG TEST that is in your USCG file is more than 6 months old (at the time you apply) you'll need to have it updated.

MASTER INLAND 360 Days Total		MASTER NEAR COASTAL 720 Days Total with at least 360 in NC Waters	
If all your time is under 5 GT	You get 25 GT	If all your time is under 5 GT	You get 25 GT
If 1 day is over 5 GT	You get 50 GT	If 1 day is over 5 GT	You get 50 GT
If 90 days is over 50 GT	You get 100 GT	If 180 days is over 50 GT	You get 100 GT
If 180 days is over 34 GT	You get 100 GT	If 360 days is over 34 GT	You get 100 GT

Requirements

In addition to the requirements of the [OUPV License](#), the Masters License also requires:

- 720 total days for a Near Coastal route, with at least 360 of these on Near Coastal waters.
- A minimum of 180 days on sailing vessels for a sailing endorsement.