

Maritime Safety Queensland

BoatSafe Information Bulletin - 005

COVID-19

Purpose

This BoatSafe Information Bulletin relates to the controlled environment that is required in order to re-commence BoatSafe training and assessment.

Requirements

Situation

The BoatSafe training and assessment scheme has been significantly impacted as a result of COVID-19 and the various directions as issued by Queensland's Chief Health Officer (CHO). Normal BoatSafe operations in-effect ceased from 30 March.

This BoatSafe Information Bulletin (BIB) outlines the framework that BoatSafe trainers may return to service delivery under current CHO restrictions. It is a condition of your BoatSafe training authority that all BoatSafe related activities are conducted in line with any published BIB's.

COVID-19 Operational requirements

Approval to recommence BoatSafe training and assessment has been received from the State Health Emergency Crisis Centre (SHECC). This is on condition that the requirement to meet Social Distancing requirements 'as far as practicable' is maintained.

To achieve the requirement of 'as far as practicable' in relation to Social Distancing, you will need to tailor your individual operations accordingly and will be solely responsible to demonstrate compliance with the requirement.

Operating Conditions

These conditions apply to all authority holders from **07 May 2020**.

BoatSafe providers must ensure that 'as far as reasonably practicable' social distancing guidelines are adhered to:

This MAY include such measures as:

- Full skin-covering attire (rash shirt, wet suits, gloves).
- Facemask coverings.
- Limiting personnel on a vessel to ensure social distancing is maintained.
- Ensuring all trainers and students remain more than 1.5m away from each other at all times unless,
 - completing the practical training and assessment where additional body covering measures may need to be applied.
- Having a documented procedure for any students and trainers that present as unwell.
- Ensuring theory components when conducted indoors, provide for at least 4 square meters of space per person.

Definitions:

Social distancing includes remaining at least 1.5 metres away from other persons, regular washing of hands and avoiding physical contact such as handshaking.

Face covering is a medical face mask when available or another face covering that will reduce the transfer of any bodily matter. For example, a fishing face cover or neck sock used for sun protection.

BTOs found to be not complying with the conditions of the BoatSafe Information Bulletin 005 as required, may be subject to suspension or cancellation of their authority.

Further Information

For further information contact the BoatSafe Team – boatsafe@msq.qld.gov.au