

# HOW TO BECOME AN INLAND NAVIGATOR

**Getting Started:** Members pursuing certification must have a "BOC Passport" to record your progress. Passports may be purchased by the SEO from HQ. These will be signed by appropriate certifiers. For courses, seminars and skill demonstrations completed before the issuing of the passport, the SEO or certifier can sign the appropriate spaces based on national or squadron records. It is important for the member to keep a passport and for squadron certifiers to keep back-up records of these events until entered into the database. You will also need to download the Inland Navigator Guide from the BOC Website, [http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/boc/main.htm#IN\\_Regts](http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/boc/main.htm#IN_Regts). The cost of the Passport is determined by your squadron.

As an Inland Navigator Candidate, you will need to review the course requirements listed below. After determining which courses and seminars you will need to complete the required course work, you should contact your SEO for available courses and seminars. Online courses and seminars from USPS should also be considered.

After downloading the Inland Navigator Guide, review the necessary boat handling skills required for the Inland Navigator. It is recommended that you practice and become familiar with these skills before requesting that a Certifier evaluate your performance. The boat handling skills evaluation can be done before the completion of the course requirements.

Your on-the-water skills demonstration can be done by either locating a scheduled BOC training event in your area by going to the following link, [http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/boc/files/boc\\_otw\\_schedule.pdf](http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/boc/files/boc_otw_schedule.pdf) or locating a certifier who can certify your on-the-water skills. The following link will take you to certifiers in your squadron or district. [http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/BOC/BOC\\_info.cgi](http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/BOC/BOC_info.cgi)

## **Inland Navigator (IN) Requirements:**

- **Courses**

- ABC-3 or equivalent Boating Safety Course
- Seamanship
- Engine Maintenance
- Marine Electrical Systems / ME 101

### **Seminars**

- How to Use a Chart (or Piloting, Chart Smart, or Boating courses)
- Basic Weather and Forecasting or Onboard Weather Forecasting (or Weather course or Weather Modules)
- Using GPS (or Piloting or AP course)
- VHF Radio and VHF/DSC Marine Radio (or Marine Communications Systems)

**Skill Demonstrations:**

- Basic Powerboat Handling skill demonstration or US Sailing Safe Powerboat Handling on-the-water program
- Use of Fire Extinguishers

**Optional Endorsements**

- Inland Waterways (Navigating Rivers, Dams and Locks seminar) (IW)
- Paddle craft (canoes and kayaks) - Paddle Smart seminar (PAD)
- Sail boating (or Sail or Sail Modules) (SA)

Note: The optional SA endorsement is required to be IN certified to operate a sailboat. The optional PAD endorsement is required to be IN certified to operate a paddle craft.

Upon successful completion of these on-the-water demonstrations and the required course work, you will be granted your Inland Navigator Certification.