



Rhode Island State Pilotage Commission

235 Promenade Street, Providence RI 02908

Guidelines for Probationary Pilot Advancement.

Providence and Mount Hope Bay:

The RI Pilot Commission has historically required that a Probationary Pilot complete a minimum of ten trips, on the waters of Narragansett Bay as Pilot of Record, for each two month upgrade. This applies to Providence & Mount Hope Bay.

Davisville:

Most vessels calling at Davisville are auto carriers that exceed the thirty-five thousand GRT limit for the first six months of a probationary pilot license. Maneuvering auto carriers at Davisville pose additional ship handling challenges, and therefore in order for probationary pilots to gain experience piloting these vessels and in order that this is accomplished in a safe manner, a Probationary Pilot may petition the RI Pilot Commission for a lifting of this restriction, in the following manner:

Once the Pilot has received his/her original Probationary Commission, he/she must continue to apprentice on car carriers and complete at least 5 additional round trips to and from Davisville. Each additional trip must be recorded on a RI Probationary Pilot Evaluation form, and must be marked "Proficient" by a RI Full Branch Pilot to be counted toward lifting restrictions in Davisville only.

Once the Probationary Pilot has completed the above requirement, the Commission may modify the Probationary Pilot's restriction from piloting to and from the Davisville Piers, and may thereafter be assigned as follows:

1. During the first six months that a Probationary Pilot is authorized to work in Davisville, he/she shall not be assigned to any job where the vessel's draft exceeds 30' or the winds are forecasted to exceed 15 knots.
2. After the Probationary Pilot has worked in Davisville for 6 months, until he/she has one year experience working in Davisville, he/she shall not be assigned to any job where the winds are forecasted to exceed 20 knots.
3. During the first 12 months that a Probationary Pilot is authorized to work in Davisville, he/she shall not be assigned to any job where the under keel clearance (UKC) is less than 2'.
4. While the probationary pilot is piloting vessels in Davisville under the above restrictions, he shall continue to train under the supervision of Full Branch Pilots in and out of Davisville, on vessels which exceed these restrictions. The probationary pilot is required to have a minimum of five evaluations marked "Proficient" where the winds are sustained 20 kts or higher.

After a Probationary Pilot has worked in Davisville for 12 months under these guidelines, and the RIPAB recommends that he/she is competent in all respects to work unrestricted in Davisville, he/she may petition the RI Pilot Commission to lift all restrictions for working in Davisville.