



# Coast Guard Auxiliary Aids to Navigation Program

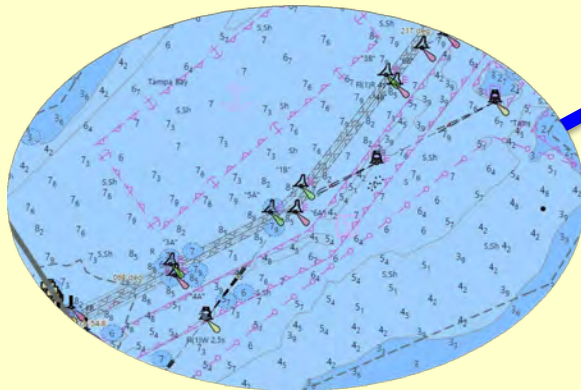
U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



**MARCH 2026**

# U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY NAVIGATION SYSTEMS



COMDTINST 16500.16 MARCH 2024



## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **Chapter 2. Introduction:**

**The Auxiliary Navigation Systems Program consists of the following:**

- a) Private Aids to Navigation (PATON)**
- b) Federal Aids to Navigation**
- c) Charts and Nautical Publication updates**
- d) Bridges**

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## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

**A.1 General** The program will be administered by DIRAUX working with District Waterways Management and Bridge Administration using appropriate Auxiliary Staff Officer and available Coast Guard Units.

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## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **A.2 Procedures**

- a. District Commanders are encouraged to use the Coast Guard Auxiliary for the verification of private aids to navigation to the extent that funds are available from the current budget.**

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## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **A.2 Procedures**

- b. When using the Auxiliary, District Commanders shall ensure that Auxiliarists receive training and maintain qualifications necessary to carry out the mission.**



## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **A.2 Procedures**

**c. District Commanders are encouraged to use the Auxiliary to assist with the administration and review of private aid to navigation application forms and other duties that may arise from their verification of private aids.**

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## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **A.2 Procedures**

**d. Authorize Coast Guard units to employ an Auxiliarist in any capacity within the scope of COMDINST M16500.7 (series) Aids to Navigation Manual – Administration and this Handbook consistent with their qualifications, certifications, and capabilities, as necessary to meet mission demands.**



## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **A.3 Responsibilities**

- 1. DIRAUX may delegate administrative responsibility to ensure success of the Auxiliary Navigation Systems program.**
- 2. The DSO-NS (District Staff Officer - Navigation Systems) shall coordinate the actions of this program. ADSO-NS shall be coordinated as necessary by the DSO-NS**

## Aids to Navigation Manual Administration



### 2. Use of the Coast Guard Auxiliary

- a. District Commanders are encouraged to use the Coast Guard Auxiliary for the verification or inspection of private aids to navigation to the extent that funds are available from current budgets.
- b. When using the Auxiliary, District Commanders shall ensure that Auxiliarists receive training and maintain qualifications necessary to carry out the mission.
- c. District Commanders are encouraged to use the Auxiliary to assist with the administration and review of private aid to navigation application forms and other duties that may arise from their verification/inspection of private aids.



## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **A.4 Assignment to Duty and Orders**

**Assignment to duty recognizes that the Auxiliary member is acting in an official capacity while performing official duties as set forth in this Handbook. Refer to the Auxiliary Manual for additional assignment to duty information.**

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## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **A.4 Assignment to Duty and Orders**

**Auxiliarists shall not verify any aid to navigation without the proper training by the Coast Guard Auxiliary and subsequent tasking by the Coast Guard.**

**Any order issued shall be in accordance with the Auxiliary Manual**

**COMDTINST M16790.1 (*series*)**

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## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **A.5 Verifications**

**Members certified Aids to Navigation Verifier – PQS are authorized to verify PATON (Class I, II, III private aids), survey bridges, and submit updates to Charts and Nautical Publications.**

**See USCG Auxiliary National Short-Range Aids to Navigation Training Guide and Nautical Chart Updating Training Guide.**

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## COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM



### B.1 Training

**DIRAUX shall be responsible for approving an appropriate training program developed and implemented by the Auxiliary Prevention Directorate, Navigation Systems.**



## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

### **B.2 Initial Qualification Requirements**

- 1. The qualification process shall be determined by DIRAUX.**
- 2. The Aids to Navigation Verifier candidate will be required to complete the current Auxiliary Aids to Navigation Verifier Performance Qualification Standard and any other DIRAUX required training.**

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## COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM



### Prerequisites

1. **BQ or AX status**
2. **Current with all Core Training**
3. **Intro to Risk Management and RM/TCT Refresher Workshop**
4. **ICS 100 & 700**

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## COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM



### C.1 Annual Currency Maintenance Requirements

1. Current with AUXCT
2. Current with TCT/RM Refresher



## **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM**

**C.1 AV-PQS members shall complete no less than one (1) hour per calendar year of any combination of the following:**

- 1. ATON verification (Code 30) at the request of the Coast Guard**
- 2. PATON verification mission (Code 31)**
- 3. Bridge Survey mission (Code 32)**
- 4. Chart/Coast Pilot Update Mission (Code 33)**
- 5. ATON Program Training (Code 34)**

# U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY NAVIGATION SYSTEMS



## 2026 SOUTHEAST DISTRICT NS WORKSHOP

14-Mar-26  0800 - 1230	30001	ATON
	30002	PATON
	30003	BRIDGES
21-Mar-26  0800 - 1230	30004	MARITIME SAFETY INFO
	30005	CHARTS
	30006	PATROLS
	30007	REPORTING

# U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY NAVIGATION SYSTEMS



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