

SRL/CIDMO – FAQ

Q. I want a Skipper Restricted Limits (SRL) Certificate of Competency, so what is CIDMO?

A. Maritime NZ are the regulator (of Maritime Activities within NZ), to earn their SRL certificate MNZ stipulate you must complete an approved training course. This course/programme, awards you with the NZQA qualification – a **Certificate in Domestic Maritime Operations (CIDMO)**, Level 4, 85 Credits. It is this qualification you must hold before you can apply for your Skipper Restricted Limits Certificate.

Q. What does an SRL allow me to do?

A. The privileges of an SRL holder allows them to be the master of a commercial vessel of up to 12m LOA with a maximum of 19 passengers within the “restricted limits” area (depends on your location). With appropriate sea time and a passenger endorsement this maybe endorsed to vessels up to 24m with however many passengers the vessel is surveyed to carry, on-board.

Q. What is involved in getting the CIDMO qualification?

A. Please refer to our Coastguard Boating Education (CBE) CIDMO prospectus. The CBE programme of study involves a series of 8 modules completed as a combination of classroom, homes study and self-directed learning. Successful completion of these modules and their respective assessments together with an approved training record Book (TRB) results in the awarding of a CIDMO certificate. This usually takes a minimum of 6 months.

Q. What is the TRB all about?

A. The training Record book is an oft misunderstood document, it serves two important functions:

1. It provides evidence to the training provider (CBE) of the practical work and learning you have done in support of your CIDMO qualification.
2. It provides the above to MNZ as well evidencing the minimum 200 hour sea time required by MNZ for an SRL applicant.

For these reasons the book should not simply be a “box ticking” exercise with the top box complete and dittos down in each column, it is a document that should be well considered, fully completed, logical in its presentation and full of supporting evidence that demonstrates the learning you underwent in completion of the practical tasks contained within it.

Q. The TRB contains a lot of specific tasks how am I meant to get all these complete?

A. We provide guidance and examples to our CIDMO candidates. But you are expected to document your learning on as many vessels as you like, fitted with the appropriate equipment. Obviously a task involving RADAR requires you to be on a vessel fitted with RADAR, likewise tasks relating to inboard diesel engines require that equipment. Your SRL certificate will not specify what type of vessels or equipment you can be the master of, so the expectation is complete the practical tasks and are familiar with all the types detailed within the TRB and are signed off by the appropriate persons.

Q. So if I pass CIDMO do I get my SRL?

A. No. The CIDMO qualification is considered the pathway to SRL. Once you hold your CIDMO qualification and completed TRB we are able to book you your MNZ, SRL Exam, on passing the exam you can apply to MNZ to be awarded an SRL certificate of Competency.

Q. What is the MNZ, SRL exam?

A. MNZ has a small group of appointed examiners; they are accredited by MNZ and should not be linked to any part of your learning/training. The exam is much like an interview, the examiner will have (or be given) a copy of your TRB. They will review this and usually the exam will be based on the sort of experiences and information contained within the book – hence the importance in having well-presented and robust TRB. The examiner will cover a range of topics including any or all of what is outlined in the SRL Competency Framework. It will be across both the Nautical Knowledge and Engineering disciplines. A typical exam lasts 1.5 hours.

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