

International Certificate of Competence (ICC)



International Certificate of Competence (ICC) is available to NZ Citizens.

The International Certificate of Competence for operators of pleasure craft (known as an ICC) is now available to New Zealand citizens, having previously only been available to UK citizens or residents. ICCs are awarded following a short practical and knowledge assessment through an RYA Training Centre.

ICCs are available in a number of different vessel categories (sail and/or power), up to 24 metres, for coastal or inland waters. An additional CEVNI endorsement is also available, covering signs, rules and procedures for European inland waterways. The CEVNI tests can be completed in hard copy or on-line.

The ICC is of United Nations (UN) origin and is regulated through the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Inland Transport Committee. Resolution 40 authorises the issue of ICCs by the RYA, through the international network of RYA Training Centres.

Which countries require or accept an ICC?

22 of the 56 UNECE member nations have formally applied Resolution 40 (though some with various caveats). The following nations should formally accept an ICC, namely: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

In practice, however, many local police, harbour masters and other local authorities know of and accept an ICC as sufficient proof of competence even when there is no legal obligation for them to do so. The holder's photograph and official wording translated into nine different languages on the certificate assist with its wide acceptance.

Note: CBE/RYA make no guarantee that an ICC will be accepted by a particular nation or individual official. Travelers are recommended to gain clarification in writing regarding what certification is required in advance.

How do I get an ICC and how much does it cost?

ICCs are issued following an assessment at an RYA Training Centre.

Contact a training centre appropriate to the type of ICC you require (power or sail). Training Centres will charge for their time to conduct the assessment, and any training you may require beforehand. ICCs incur a admin/processing/certificate fee payable to CBE.

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