Research Vessel Operations

The Research Vessel Operations department are responsible for the management, development and promotion of two national vessels, RV Celtic Explorer and RV Celtic Voyager, and the deep-water Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) Holland 1.
Requirements for personnel working on Marine Institute research and charter vessels

In order to sign on as a seafarer on the R.V. Celtic Explorer and/or R.V. Celtic Voyager all persons need to be in possession of valid documentation, which include:

- ENG-11 medical certificate, or approved equivalent
- Personal Survival Techniques (PST) certificate, or approved equivalent
- Passport

Please note that the original documents must be taken onboard as copies will not suffice.

An additional security awareness training course needs to be completed for signing onto the R.V. Celtic Explorer as a seafarer and the following certificate issued:

- Proficiency in Security Awareness certificate

Please note that the original document must be taken onboard as copies will not suffice.

ENG-11 Medical Certificate

The current legislation came into effect in July 2014 (Marine Notice 38). Only certain doctors, listed under Approved Doctors, can issue ENG-11 medical certificates. The certs should be written on the approved form (see example 1, page 5).

ENG-11 medical certificates are valid for 2 years from issue date and should be checked to ensure the following:

- Expiry date on the form is after the end of your next cruise
- Date of birth is correct

Seafarers’ medical certificates from some other countries (all EU states and several others) are accepted if the cert is of the type approved by that state (it might be called something else than ENG-11, for example in the UK it would be the ENG-1). A full list of countries whose seafaring medical certificates are accepted are listed in Annex b of Marine Notice No.38 of 2014.
Personal Survival Techniques (PST) certificate

Everybody working on Irish research vessels must have taken a training course in Personal Survival Techniques (PST) approved under the STCW 78/95 convention. **The exact course title is:** Training for the issue of Certificates of Proficiency in Personal Survival Techniques, STCW 78/95 Regulation VI/I and STCW Code Section A-VI/I Paragraph 2.1.1

PST certificates are valid for 5 years from the issue date and should be checked to ensure the following:

- Course provider is on the list of approved course providers
- Issue date on form is within the 5 year period

If you, or any foreign scientist or contractor who joins the ship from abroad (including the UK), has any other kind of marine safety course cert, it is acceptable if:

- the country has signed the SOLAS and STCW conventions - most countries have.
- there is a clear reference to the STCW convention on the cert.

If there is no mention of the STCW -78/95 convention on the cert, it unfortunately cannot be accepted. If you need to organize a PST course for scientists joining your cruise, a list of approved course providers can be found here PST Course Providers.

Passport

You must bring a **current, valid** passport, in the event that the ship needs to enter a foreign port for some unplanned reason. (Since you don’t know which country such a port call might be in, it’s safer to have a passport than only a national ID card, which might not be recognized in every country).
Proficiency in Security Awareness certificate

Some of the scientific team joining the R.V. Celtic Explorer will be required to undertake further training in Ships Security Awareness. The chief scientist will be informed prior to the survey and a decision will be made which scientists will do the training. The chief scientist will then inform scientists if they need to undertake the security awareness training prior to the survey start date.

The training should meet the requirements as set out in Table A-VI/6-1 of the STCW Code 1978, as amended IMO Model course 3.27.

This training is given to those onboard the ship who do not have a designated security duty. It will provide the essential education and training supported in Chapter XI-2 of the annex to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) 1974, as amended, and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

This information and links to relevant documents can also be found on our website under Vessel User Information: [http://www.marine.ie/Home/site-area/infrastructure-facilities/research-vessels/vessel-user-information?language=en](http://www.marine.ie/Home/site-area/infrastructure-facilities/research-vessels/vessel-user-information?language=en)

Please see following pages for examples of certs.
Examples

1. ENG-11 Medical Certificate

The expiry date (circled in red) should be after your next cruise and 2 years after the issuing date (within the green square). The doctor (circled in blue) should be on the list of approved doctors.
2. PST Certificate

The course provider is on the approved list, and the cert shows that the course is in accordance with STCW-78/95 (see red box). The date of issue is no more than five years.
3. Security Awareness Certificate

![Security Awareness Certificate Image]