

Maritime Safety Queensland

BoatSafe Medical Condition Fact Sheet

Purpose

This BoatSafe Medical Condition Fact Sheet is for both the licence student and the BoatSafe Training Providers to understand the process for a student that may have a medical condition, that may prevent them from discharging their general safety obligations when operating a ship in Queensland waters.

General information

The BoatSafe Training Organisation (BTO) **must** ensure all licence candidates undertaking a BoatSafe course or applying for Recognised Prior Learning (RPL) complete a Recreational marine driver licence and personal watercraft licence - medical fitness disclosure statement, which can be downloaded from the department's website (www.tmr.qld.gov.au), before enrolment.

Candidates **must** declare any medical condition that may impact their ability to safely operate a vessel. A candidate who discloses a medical condition may, on agreement with the BTP, continue the BoatSafe training and assessment.

Once successfully completed the training and assessment the BTO must send the candidate's SOC to the department. The BTP **must** provide a candidate who discloses a medical condition with information on the medical fitness review process. The BTO and BTP are not permitted to request specific details of the candidate's medical condition.

Where a candidate declares a medical condition, the BTO must forward the candidate's contact information to the department within 2 working days. Wherever possible, the department will make medical fitness determinations in consultation with qualified health professionals.

Medical conditions

The following provides some examples of medical conditions which may affect the safe operation of a vessel:

- vision impairment
- hearing impairment
- cardiovascular condition
- psychiatric conditions
- musculoskeletal conditions that impede mobility or agility
- neurological disorders
- respiratory disorders
- dementia or Alzheimer's disease
- insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
- moderate or severe sleep disorders.

Process

The following table provides the detailed steps that will be taken. The process is intended to be flexible and provide for each student's medical condition to be reviewed individually and will take in to account the students current and future condition.

Step	Process
1	Licence candidate completes the Recreational marine driver licence and personal watercraft licence - medical fitness disclosure statement prior to participation in BoatSafe training or the BTO may provide the form at enrolment. It is the BTO's responsibility to ensure this statement is completed.

- 2 Where the candidate indicates on the Medical Fitness Disclosure Statement that they have a medical condition, the BTP will advise the candidate that:
 - Their medical fitness will be reviewed by the department.
 - They are not required to disclose the specific nature of their medical condition to the BTO or BTP.
 - Their contact information will be given to the department.
 - The department will contact them to explain the medical fitness review process.
 - They may participate in the BoatSafe training and Assessment, if agreed to by the BTP, however on successful completion, the SOC will be given to the department.

- 3 The BTO/BTP forwards the candidate's contact information to the department within 2 working days.

- 4 If the candidate successfully completes the BoatSafe training and assessment the BTO/BTP forwards the candidate's SOC to the department at:
[BoatSafe Scheme Administrator, PO Box 2595 | Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

- 5 The department will place a text restriction on the candidate's driver licence record. This will alert the departmental Customer Service Officers that the person is undergoing a medical fitness review and is not eligible for the granting of an RMDL or PWCL.

- 6 The department will give the candidate an RMDL/PWCL Medical Fitness Questionnaire for the candidate's nominated health professional to complete and sign or other document as appropriate to their condition. The department will also give the candidate an RMDL/PWCL form [F2334](#) that can be downloaded from the website. Both documents are to be completed and returned to the department by email to boatsafe@msq.qld.gov.au.

- 7 The department will review the completed RMDL/PWCL Medical Fitness Questionnaire and advise the candidate and BTP of the outcome of the review. The outcome may be a recommendation to:
 - grant an RMDL/PWCL without conditions
 - grant an RMDL/PWCL subject to conditions
 - refuse to grant an RMDL/PWCL.

- 8 If the recommendation is to grant the licence without conditions, the department will:
 - Return the RMDL/PWCL Licence Application (F2334) and SOC to the candidate. The candidate may attend any Customer Service Centre (CSC) to apply for the RMDL or PWCL.
 - Remove the text restriction from the candidate's driver licence record.If the recommendation is to grant the licence with conditions, the department will:
 - Forward the RMDL/PWCL Licence Application (F2334) and SOC and a letter detailing the licence conditions to the candidate's nominated departmental CSC. The candidate must attend the nominated CSC to apply for the RMDL or PWCL.
 - Will update the text restriction on the candidate's driver licence record.If the recommendation is to refuse the licence application, the department will
 - Advise the candidate or guardian in writing and provide information regarding their right to appeal.
 - Update the text restriction on the candidate's driver licence record.
 - Retain the RMDL/PWCL Licence Application (F2334) and SOC.

Further Information

For further information contact the BoatSafe Team – boatsafe@msq.qld.gov.au