



Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
Australian Antarctic Division

WATERCRAFT OPERATOR

Overview of the Role

The AAD engages Watercraft Operators each season to man Jet Barges, Uniflotes, Fuel Barges, Workboats, Lighter Amphibious Resupply Cargo vessels (LARC), Inflatable Rubber Boats (IRBs), Rigid Inflatable Boats (RIBs) on resupply voyages to Australia's three Antarctic continental stations, subantarctic Macquarie Island and other remote Southern Ocean locations. Their primary responsibilities will be to deploy, monitor and retrieve ship to shore fuel lines, undertake ship to shore transfers of passengers and cargo.

What will you actually do on the job?

Operational:

- Operate and maintain watercraft in a range of potentially hazardous sea conditions, in support of AAp priorities including the deployment of personnel and fuel resupply operations
- Support ship and station operations, including resupply and AAp science and general projects assisting with cargo operations, operating plant, other watercraft and support for project personnel on station and in the field.

Training and Safety:

- Deliver training support activities and provide briefings on operational and safety requirements.
- Contribute to a brief report on activities undertaken and recommendations at the end of the voyage to the Shipping Officer - Watercraft.

You are required to maintain a personal and practical commitment to the AAD's OHS and Environmental Policies. The safety and environmental roles and responsibilities relevant to your position will be communicated to you by your supervisor.

Required Skills, Knowledge and Attributes

Demonstrated skills and experience relevant to the safe operation of watercraft in Antarctic and sub-antarctic areas (or similar), in support of ship to shore personnel transfer and refueling operations.

Proven skills, training and practical experience relevant to one or more of the following areas:

- Antarctic station resupply or similar
- Ship's cargo handling with assorted Barges and LARCs
- Conduct training and briefings

- Surf landings in assorted vessels
- Conduct safety briefings and use of Job safely Analysis
- Supervision and Training of personnel in relevant vessels and equipment
- Leadership skills e.g. Team Leading/Coordination & Voyage Leading or similar
- Antarctic field training or similar

Qualifications Requirements

For jet barges, workboats and LARCs, a current full coxswain certificate is required as a minimum.

For IRBs & RIBs under 6 metres a current restricted coxswain's qualification with 3 x 30 Nautical Mile endorsement as a minimum.

Desirable Qualifications

Diesel Mechanic, Marine Engine Driver, Dogman, Riggers, Crane Driver, Fork Lift Driver, Loader Driver, Skidder Driver, Truck/bus driver, Training qualifications, Competent Crew qualifications, Helicopter marshalling qualifications, other Maritime qualifications.

Personal Qualities Requirements

As the member of a small crew there are also personal attribute requirements which the Australian Antarctic Division assesses very closely. You will need to meet the personal qualities criteria listed below.

To be successful you will:

- demonstrate experience in working in remote locations and vessels with small multi skilled groups.
- demonstrate a strong work ethic.
- demonstrate that you can make a positive contribution to community and team.
- demonstrate that you respond to authority and are compliant with the law, legislative requirements and AAD policies and procedures.
- demonstrate a commitment to Australian Antarctic program specific requirements.

Medical, Psychological and Security Screening

If you are assessed as meeting the above job related and personal quality requirements, you will be required to undergo medical, psychological and security screening. Meeting the requirements of these is mandatory.

- Our Polar Medicine Unit will decide on your medical fitness for duty in Antarctica following tests conducted on our behalf by a nominated medical practitioner.
- Psychological assessments are conducted on our behalf by the Directorate of Psychology, Department of Defence.
- Security checks vary depending on the role required. This may be limited to a police records check.