

The Cook Islands Boat Master Course

The Ministry of Transport (MOT) was established as a Government Ministry to regulate transport in the Cook Islands whilst providing direction and oversight of the relevant authorities and service providers in the sector.

In 1994 the Ministry offered certification through the Cook Islands Boat Master Course. In accordance with the 2014 Maritime Transport Vessels Regulation, there is a requirement for the driver, operator or person in command of a vessel under 24m operating within the territorial sea (12 nautical miles) used primarily for the carriage of passengers or cargo on a commercial basis to have a Cook Islands Boat Master Certificate. This Certificate is valid for 5 years with an opportunity to revalidate for a further 5 years if the certificate has not been cancelled or suspended.

Since 2022 the course has been shared with the *Cook Islands Technical Training Institute (CITTI)*. This is an acknowledgement that CITTI are educators and MOT are regulators. CITTI is now responsible for the classroom teaching following a training manual, as well as rope and chart work. MOT provides the licence.

CITTI provides courses in Rarotonga and has 2 non Cook Islands Maori speaking trainers who have worked with MOT teachers who delivered courses in Mitiaro, Rakahanga and Manihiki. An MOU between MOT and CITTI will be signed soon. As the Pa Enea are mainly Cook Islands Maori speakers, the MOU parties agree that CITTI will teach the course on Rarotonga and Aitutaki; and MOT will teach on all other islands of the Pa Enea.

MOT has charged \$200 per student for Rarotonga and Aitutaki, and \$50 in the Pa Enea. CITTI fees are advertised at \$200 per student on Rarotonga.

The next Boat Masters course provided by CITTI is on their Facebook page.

- **Tutors:** Deon Wong and Sam Timoko
- **Learner #:** maximum 20 learners
- **Location:** Training Room 1, CITTI Arorangi Campus
- **Dates:** Monday 8 – Friday 12 May 2023
- **Time:** 8am – 4pm

The Coordinator is Ovaia Liew (Business Partnership Coordinator)

Cook Islands Tertiary Training Institute

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