

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

America's Volunteer Lifesavers SM

SpeedGram

August 2002

Number 2002-10

BASIC COASTAL NAVIGATION (BCN) ADVANCED COASTAL NAVIGATION (ACN) AUXILIARY ADVANCED COASTAL NAVIGATION (AUXACN)

The former BCN/ACN courses have been merged into one course, AUXACN. This new course has three segments. BCN, AUXACN (Part I) and AUXACN (Part II). All three segments rely on the new 4th Edition *Advanced Coastal Navigation* textbook.

This, revised and expanded, 4th edition is now available. Textual changes reflect both new navigational developments and added material to support Member Training requirements.

This textbook, and its accompanying material, (Student Guide, 1210-Tr chart, certificate and exam) is designed to support all three segments of the AUXACN course. To explain just how the new system works the following is a model of how BCN/ACN/AUXACN work together.

Students, from both the public and Auxiliary, may take all three segments of the course or just BCN and/or ACN (Part I). (This is no different from our present BCN/ACN course(s).) Auxiliary members, who successfully complete all three segments, will have qualified for the Auxiliary AUXNAV designation. Public students, having successfully completed all three segments, and upon joining the Auxiliary, will likewise qualify for the AUXNAV designation.

Students will start with the BCN segment (the first 6 Chapters of the ACN text). Upon successful completion, a BCN sign-off will be added to their Certificate. Students may then study for the second segment, AUXACN (Part I). (Both segments may be taught in the same class, or be split and taught in different classes). Upon successful completion of the AUXACN (Part I) segment, this sign-off may be added to the Certificate. Finally, students who want to attain the AUXACN (Part II) sign-off may do so by passing a Charting exam (an explanation follows)

For students to successfully complete both the BCN and AUXACN (Part I) segments, they must pass a knowledge exam for each segment. This exam, which comes with the course supplies, will be administered at the appropriate time(s) and graded (critiqued) in the classroom, as is the present practice. While the present Cruise exercise, using the 1210-Tr chart, remains a part of the course, there will NOT be a Cruise exam for either of these segments.

Students opting for the AUXACN (Part II) sign-off, and thus the AUXNAV rating, must have successfully completed both BCN and AUXACN (Part I) and, in addition, pass a Charting exam. Member Training will provide this Charting exam, and the necessary 1210-Tr chart. The exam will be proctored and graded in keeping with current Member Training procedures.

Flotillas need to order class materials for the PUBLIC students from their DSO-MAs, as is presently done. These materials will include the textbook, student guide, certificate, the knowledge exam and ONE 1210-Tr chart per student.

For Auxiliary MEMBERS, Flotillas need to order supplies through the regular Member Training system (ANSC). The Coast Guard provides these materials. Members will receive a textbook, student guide, certificate, the knowledge exam and one 1210-Tr Chart (the same package public student receive). When an order for the Charting Exam, necessary for the AUXACN (Part II) sign-off, is placed, through the normal examination request procedures in the Member Training system, the proctor will receive the exam, with instructions, and one 1210-Tr chart per student.

This new procedure, for the first time, provides the means for public students to qualify for the Auxiliary AUXNAV rating. One of the reasons for this new procedure is to encourage public students to join the Auxiliary in order to “activate” the AUXNAV designation they have earned through the successful completion of all three segments.

The course is supported by a robust PowerPoint presentation. This presentation leads the student through all of the material, thus serving as a lesson plan for the instructor. The PowerPoint presentation can be found on the latest Education Department Electronic Projection CD. (See SpeedGrams 2002-8 & 9)

John VanOsdol, DC-E