

Arizona

California

Nevada

Boating Education Requirement	Boater education is recommended but not required.	Beginning January 1, 2018, the mandatory boating safety education law goes into effect and will be phased in by age. If you operate any type of motorized vessel on California waterways (including powered sailboats/paddlecraft), you will be required to pass an approved boating safety examination and carry a lifetime California Boater Card. Visit CaliforniaBoaterCard.com for phase in schedule and more information.	Motorboats with motors of 15hp or greater on interstate waters: Any operator born on or after Jan. 1, 1983 must possess proof of completion of a NASBLA approved boating course if operating on Nevada's interstate waters, including but not limited to Lake Mead, Lake Mohave, Lake Tahoe, Topaz Lake and sections of the Colorado River System.
Operator Age, and Supervision	Watercraft with motors greater than 8hp: The operator must be at least 12 years of age. An operator under the age of 12 must have direct on board supervision by a person who is at least 18 years of age.	Watercraft with motors greater than 15hp and sailboats exceeding 30' in length: Operator must be at least 16 years of age. Operators between the ages of 12-15 must have a person 18 or older on board for supervision.	PWC: The operator must be at least 14 years of age. Towing: A person operating a vessel that is towing someone on any device must be at least 16 years of age.
Life Jacket Requirements			
Age Requirements	Children age 12 or younger must wear a wearable Coast Guard-approved life jacket while the boat is underway. The life jacket must be fastened according to the manufacturer's recommended use and must fit properly.	Children under 13 years of age on board a recreational vessel of any length must wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket in serviceable condition and of a type and size appropriate for the conditions and the activity while the boat is underway. Exceptions: when the child is restrained by a harness tethered to a sailboat or when inside an enclosed cabin.	Children under 13 years of age must wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket whenever the vessel is underway, except when inside a fully enclosed area.
Carriage Requirements	One wearable life jacket for each person on board. Boats 16' or longer must carry at least one throwable flotation device, except canoes and kayaks.	One wearable life jacket for each person on board. Vessels 16' or longer must carry at least one throwable flotation device.	(Except sailboards) One wearable life jacket for each person on board. Vessels 16' or longer must carry at least one throwable flotation device.
Personal Water Craft (PWC) and Towing Requirements	Each person on board a PWC and anyone being towed behind a vessel must have on a properly fitted, wearable Coast Guard-approved life jacket for the intended activity.		
Towing Rules (including water skiing, wakeboarding, knee boarding, tubing, etc.)			
Flag	Use an International orange or red ski flag that is at least 12" by 12" to indicate a downed skier, a skier in the water preparing to ski, ski line extended from the vessel or a ski in the water in the vicinity of the vessel		
Observer	An operator of a watercraft shall ensure that the observer of a towed person or persons must be on board and is both physically capable and mentally competent to act as an observer and be at least 12 years of age.	When using a boat to tow someone on water skis or an aquaplane, there must be one other person in the boat—in addition to the operator—who can observe the person being towed. The observer must be at least 12 years of age.	The observer must be on board the towing vessel and at least 14 years of age. Observer may be 12 years of age if a person 18 years or older is also on board the towing vessel. Must display the ski flag when the skier is down.
Time	Towing is allowed sunrise to sunset.		

Boating Under the Influence = 0.08% Blood Alcohol Concentration

Anyone who drinks alcohol on a vessel is at risk. Drunken passengers on boats can easily fall overboard, swim near the propeller, or cause loading problems by leaning over the side or standing up in small vessels, causing vessels to capsize.