

**Division of Boating and Waterways
Boating Safety Unit
Yacht and Ship Broker Licensing Program
Overview
May 5, 2022**

Overview of Yacht and Ship Broker Licensing Program:

Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) licenses and regulates yacht brokers and salespersons in California. Any person selling used vessels 16 feet or longer and less than 300 gross tons, for others and who does not own those vessels, are required to be licensed in CA. DBW enforces the Harbors & Navigation Code 700-740 to regulate the activities of licensees to ensure compliance and provide consumer protection.

The program objectives are:

- 1) To provide consumer protection and licensing information to public.*
- 2) Issue yacht and ship broker/salesperson license to qualified applicants.*
- 3) Interpret boating laws that govern the program to applicants and consumers.*

The five main components of the program are:

- 1) To license and regulate yacht and ship broker/salesperson licensees.*
- 2) Process applications for yacht broker and salesperson licenses.*
- 3) Ensure that all duties related to application processing and licensing for yacht brokers are completed to comply with the laws, policies and procedures that govern the program.*
- 4) Facilitate and proctor yacht and ship broker and salesperson examination.*
- 5) Review applicant backgrounds before issuing license.*

Program Staff, Budget and Cost:

- 1) The Yacht and Ship licensing unit has three staff that oversees the duties of the program.*
- 2) Program staffs are two Licensing Administrators (SSA) and one Enforcement Officer (AGPA).*
- 3) The 3-year average budget for the program was \$375,000.00.*
- 4) The 3-year average cost to administer the operations of the Yacht and Ship Program was \$358,947.33.*

**Division of Boating and Waterways
Boating Safety Unit
Yacht and Ship Broker Licensing Program
Summary
May 5, 2022**

Summary:

A "**Broker**" is defined as:

A person who, except as otherwise excluded by Section 710, for compensation or in expectation of compensation, does, or negotiates to do, one or more of the following acts for another or others:

(1) Sells or offers to sell, buys or offers to buy, solicits or obtains listings of, or negotiates the purchase, sale, or exchange of yachts, and who does not own those yachts.

(2) Leases or rents, offers to lease or rent, places for rent, solicits a listing of a yacht for rent, or negotiates the purchase, sale, or exchange of a lease on a yacht, for a rental or lease period of more than 90 consecutive days to any one person or business during any 12-month period, and who does not own that yacht.

Minimum Qualifications to Apply:

Be at least 18 years of age; and

Employed as a licensed Salesperson for at least one year in the past five years or licensed as a Broker in the past five years; **or**

(Beginning January 1, 1998) have owned and operated a marine business in California selling new or used yachts for a minimum of three continuous year's immediately preceding application for a broker license. ["Yacht" refers to vessels 16 feet or longer and under 300 gross tons]; and have an established place of business located in California (post office box, mail drop or telephone answering service is not a "Place of Business"); **or**

Only for Out-of-State Applicants - Have been employed, as the primary occupation, as a yacht broker or yacht salesperson in another state for a minimum of three continuous year's immediately preceding application for a California broker license. ["Broker" refers to a person who, under a consignment agreement, negotiates the purchase, sale, lease, or exchange of (used) yachts and who does not own the vessels.]

Fees:

\$ 200.00 – Original Broker's License

\$ 25.00 – Written Examination

\$ 225.00 – Total

Total Broker Licenses:

There are currently **332** active brokers in the yacht brokerage industry in California.