

SOCIETY OF ACCREDITED MARINE SURVEYORS®

**SUBJECT: ACCREDITED MARINE SURVEYOR (AMS®)
CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

SUMMARY: Outlines requirements for maintenance of AMS® classification

POLICY

Accredited Marine Surveyors must agree to participate in and meet all requirements of the SAMS® Continuing Education (CE) program as established by the Education Committee and/or the Board of Directors.

To maintain the AMS® classification, an AMS® member under the age of 75 must:

- 1) accumulate a minimum of **sixty CE credits** and
- 2) attend a **minimum of one SAMS® International Meeting and Educational Conference (IMEC)** within each five year period following initial AMS® classification. SAMS® members in countries other than the US, Canada and Mexico may meet the Annual Meeting requirement by attending a “recognized marine symposium” in any other country. The SAMS® International Meeting and Educational Conference (IMEC) requirement shall consist of at least two full days of education AT AN IMEC totaling sixteen education credits.

Members that are age 75 and older with 15 years in good standing as an AMS® member, will be required to obtain thirty continuing education credits within their five year certification period. In lieu of the IMEC requirement they shall attend two Regional Meetings during that same period.

Members that are age 80 and older with 20 years in good standing as an AMS® member would be exempt from all CE requirements, as well as the IMEC requirement.

Members failing to fulfill the above requirement will have their membership terminated unless they are reaccredited in the same designation(s). This can be accomplished by retaking and passing the current AMS® examination(s). Retesting must take place within the same year the five year requirement is to be met, and 45 days prior to the AMS® member’s due date. Any AMS® member that is required to “retest” because of not meeting the AMS® Continuing Education requirements will be charged a retest fee equal to the registration cost of the previous IMEC. If an IMEC has been attended within the certification period, the retest fee would then be \$200.00.

Definition of a SAMS® CE: an educational marine experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction and qualified instruction. Unless otherwise noted, one hour of instruction qualifies for one education credit.

Credits are not limited to SAMS® sponsored functions. Seminars sponsored by ABYC, NFPA, UL, NAMS, IAMI, etc. will qualify. Acceptability of individual programs will be decided by the Education VP.

Professional Activities that Qualify for CE Credit

Attendance at educational marine programs sponsored by professional marine related organizations or other marine learning entities. Any SAMS®, NAMS, ABYC, NFPA, etc., seminar would be considered a professional marine related activity. Trade show seminars such as IBEX is another example of an approved program.

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AMS® CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS – Continued

Other Activities that Might Qualify

Publication of an Article

Three credits may be earned for publication of an article of a marine related nature in either the SAMS® Newsletter or in other marine journals. Up to nine CE credits may be awarded in a five year period, at the discretion of the Education VP.

Presentation (instructor/trainer) of an educational program (ABYC, etc.):

Same as the CE's allowed for the course, only one course allowed during certification period (5 years).

Example: ABYC course credits twenty-four CE's - Instructor will be given the same amount of CE's, but only once in their certification period.

Speaking engagements:

One credit may be earned for a speaking engagement on a marine related subject. Up to five CE credits may be awarded in a five year period, at the discretion of the Education VP.

Online marine related courses:

A maximum of thirty credits or 50% of the total sixty CE requirement, may be earned through online and distant learning courses on a marine related subject in each five year period, at the discretion of the Education VP.

Online courses that are followed by a proctored exam will be granted full credit upon providing proof of passing the exam to the International Office. Documentation showing dates and hours will also be required. CE's will be awarded in the certification year of the proctored passed exam. If the proctored exam is failed, CE's will still be granted, but limited to the 50% maximum for the five year period.

Proof of attendance will be required, and approval of all credits will be at the discretion of SAMS® Education VP.

The individual member is responsible for the reporting of his/her attainment of CE credits to the International Office. A CE reporting form will be provided to each AMS® with their Annual Dues Statement, mailed in December. The reporting form should be returned with the member's annual dues payment. Accounting of the acquired CE credits will be accomplished by the Education Committee and based upon reports received from the International Office.

SOURCE: SAMS® Board of Directors Meeting, 28 October 1989;
SAMS® Membership Standards; Code of Ethics and Rules of Practice (item 2); Education VP letter, March 1991;
SAMS® Board of Directors Amendments, 1993 - 2007
SAMS® Board of Directors Amendments, 2008-2012
SAMS® Board of Directors Amendments, 2013-2015
SAMS® Board of Directors Amendments, 2016-2019
SAMS® Board of Directors Amendment, 23 March 2020