

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*** participate in and meet all requirements of the SAMS^o Continuing Education (CE) program as established by the Education Committee and/or the Board of Directors.

Definition of a SAMS® CE: **1 hour = 1 CE** - an educational experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction and qualified instruction. Unless otherwise noted, one hour of instruction qualifies for one education credit.

To maintain the AMS^o classification, an AMS^o member under the age of 75 ***must***:

- 1) accumulate a minimum of **sixty (60) CE credits** and
- 2) attend a **minimum of one SAMS® International Meeting and Educational Conference (IMEC) within each five (5) year period following initial AMS^o 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.
- 3) Effective 01/01/2024 each member must obtain 2 hours (2 CE’s) of ETHICS training within their certification period either at Regional Meetings, IMEC or online ethics classes.

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 reaccruited 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.

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

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marine related activity. Trade show seminars such as IBEX is another example (with an approved attendance certificate or verification of attendance).

Other Activities that Might Qualify

Members are encouraged to expand their knowledge and skills through a balance of different courses, work related activity and educational methods designed to ensure their professional development and competence. SAMS® does reserve the right to determine the appropriateness of the subject matter submitted for credit.

Presentation (instructor/trainer) of an educational program (ABYC, NPFA, IAMI 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.

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.

Online marine related courses

CE requirements may be earned through online and distant learning courses on a marine related subject or a subject that will improve your professionalism in your practice subject to the discretion of the Education VP.

Proof of attendance will be required, and approval of all credits will be at the discretion of SAMS® Education VP. 1 hour of education = 1 CE.

Additional education opportunities can be found on SAMS® Website in the “Members Corner”.

Documentation of Activities

It is extremely important that all members keep good records and maintain your own personal file. Attendance at SAMS® functions will be automatically credited from the sign-in sheets (with member's signature) which will have been forwarded to the International Office.

Certificates of attendance or completion of a course, and other similar types of documentation for marine related activities that verify each education activity must be sent in with your request and should be kept in your file in case they are audited.

Each surveyor is reminded that the Education requirements of SAMS® are minimal and all professionals are encouraged to participate in on-going educational activities that further their professional growth and development. If your request for Education Credits is not documented, they will not be allowed. All certifications must be sent in with the Education Reporting Form. Reporting forms can be found on SAMS® website in the “Education” section **and may be submitted throughout the year as CE credits occur.**

SOURCE: Initiated: SAMS® Board of Directors Meeting, 28 October 1989;
Last Update: SAMS® Board of Directors Amendment, 8 February 2023
Last Update: SAMS® Board of Directors Amendment, 28 October 2023