



**Australian Government**

**Department of the Environment and Energy**

Australian Antarctic Division

**WATERCRAFT OPERATOR**

**OVERVIEW OF THE ROLE**

The AAD engages Watercraft Operators each season to operate Jet Barges, Uniflotes, Workboats, Lighter Amphibious Resupply Cargo vessels (LARC), Inflatable Rubber Boats (IRBs), and Rigid Inflatable Boats (RIBs) on resupply voyages to Australia's three Antarctic continental stations, subantarctic Macquarie Island and other remote Southern Ocean locations. Their primary responsibilities are to skipper/crew watercraft to deploy, monitor and retrieve ship to shore fuel lines, and undertake ship to shore transfers of passengers and cargo.

Suitable persons may be selected from the group of successful Watercraft Operator candidates to work as a Watercraft Coordinator.

***Please note that this role does not involve the operation of larger vessels and applicants must have extensive, current hands-on experience in operating small watercraft under 15m in length in a range of operational conditions.***

**WHAT WILL YOU ACTUALLY DO ON THE JOB?**

Operational:

- Operate and maintain watercraft in a range of potentially hazardous sea conditions, in support of Australian Antarctic Program (AAP) priorities, including the deployment of personnel and fuel resupply operations.
- Support ship and station operations, including resupply and AAP science and general projects assisting with cargo operations and personnel transfers.

Workplace Practices:

- Adhere to Standard Operating Procedures and Job Hazard Analyses
- maintain a personal and practical commitment to AAD Work Health and Safety (WHS) and Environmental Policies. Training and guidance in regard to safety and environmental responsibilities relevant to your position will be provided by your supervisor and others
- Undertake required AAD training courses in support of voyage Watercraft Operations

**REQUIRED SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND ATTRIBUTES**

You will have demonstrated capability and extensive recent experience (within the last 5 years) in operating **small** watercraft (under 15m in length), with emphasis on the following aspects:

- Operating watercraft under 15m length in Antarctic/Arctic, sub-Antarctic/surf operations or other remote locations (within the last 5 years).
- Skills and experience operating watercraft under 15m length in support of cargo operations, overwater refueling, and passenger transfers. loading/dischage of large cargo items and containers and/or working under ship and shore cranes is an advantage.

- Working to Standard Operating Procedures, Job Hazard Analyses and organisational policies. Candidates must be able to demonstrate a strong safety culture and willingness to comply with safety and environmental policies and procedures.
- Writing and presenting concise operational reports and briefing groups on operations requirements.

### **Qualifications and Licences - Required on Application**

**You must provide evidence of all relevant qualifications and licences in your application. Preferably attach a scanned copy. Otherwise, you must provide detail of the full title of the qualification/licence, date of issue and date of expiration (if relevant). Please note that if you do not provide evidence of required qualifications and licences, your application will not be considered further.**

- A current Coxswain 1 certificate is required as a minimum.
- A Dogman Ticket (DG) or Rigging Certificate valid in Australia is highly desirable.
- Other qualifications valid in Australia, such as Diesel Mechanic, Marine Engine Driver (MED) or other relevant training qualifications are desirable.

### **Qualifications and Licences - Required on Commencement with the AAD:**

- You must have a current statement of attainment in the following units of first aid: Provide First Aid (HLTAID003) - valid for at least 12 months beyond the date of commencement) and Provide CPR (HLTAID001).

### **Personal Qualities Requirements**

The Australian Antarctic Division assesses individual personal qualities in terms of the attributes required to successfully live and work in an isolated Antarctic community. Successful candidates will meet the personal qualities criteria detailed in Attachment 1.

### **Medical, Psychological and Security Screening**

If you are assessed as meeting the above job related and personal quality requirements, you will be required to undergo medical, psychological and security screening. Meeting and maintaining suitability in relation to these requirements is mandatory.

- The AAD's Polar Medicine Unit will determine your medical fitness for duty in Antarctica following tests conducted on our behalf by a nominated medical practitioner
- Psychological assessments are conducted on our behalf by a nominated professional provider.
- Security checks vary depending on the role required. This may be limited to a police records check.
- Candidates considered for a role at Macquarie Island may be required to complete a fitness assessment.

### **WORKING CONDITIONS - SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Hazards that exist at the work site are controlled by various methodologies and will be discussed during your training. The isolation of Antarctica and the nature of the physical environment will require the employee to work in the following conditions:

- Cold and wet conditions

- Potential for cold water immersion - including surf operations.
- Both high and low solar ultraviolet radiation exposure
- Marine and coastal environment conditions
- Required to use and wear personal protective clothing and equipment (PPE) including cold, ultraviolet and marine environment clothing
- Required to drive, crew or be a passenger in a range of enclosed and non-enclosed craft including Jet Barges, Uniflotes, Workboats, Lighter Amphibious Resupply Cargo vessels (LARC), Inflatable Rubber Boats (IRBs), and Rigid Inflatable Boats (RIBs)
- Embarkation and disembarkation on ships, boats and aircraft
- Vessel/Crane/hook/cargo – potential for crush or impact injury
- There is asbestos on all stations, however it is controlled and contained.
- Undertake Manual handling tasks

## PERSONAL QUALITIES CRITERIA

### Successful applicants will:

- **DEMONSTRATE A STRONG WORK ETHIC**

Evidenced by a proven history of efficient, effective, responsive and productive work performance.

Applicants for supervisory positions will be expected to demonstrate supervisory capabilities, including a good knowledge of workplace diversity, workplace relations, work, health and safety and environmental management practices and principles.

- **DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY CAN MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY AND TEAM**

Evidenced by:

- demonstrating the capacity to cope with physical and emotional isolation and the resilience to overcome hardship;
- demonstrating the capacity to work productively, contribute to the success of small isolated work groups and the overall community including recognising the effect their behaviour has on others;
- demonstrating a capacity to address and resolve issues of conflict;
- demonstrating the capacity to exercise sound judgement;
- demonstrating flexibility, tolerance and acceptance of changing circumstances;
- demonstrating qualities of robustness, motivation and confidence whilst displaying sensitivity, situational awareness and support and respect to fellow workers;
- demonstrating good social skills and taking pride in their appearance and maintaining socially accepted standards of hygiene;
- responsible use of alcohol; and
- not exhibiting behaviour that could endanger others' safety or be seen as being abusive, threatening or offensive to others.

- **DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY RESPOND TO AUTHORITY AND ARE COMPLIANT WITH THE LAW, LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND AAD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Evidenced by:

- a history of complying with authority and supporting lawful instructions;
- demonstrating a commitment to and compliance with appropriate environmental management policies and practices;
- demonstrating a knowledge and history of compliance with work health and safety practices and principles; and
- recognition of harassment and discrimination issues and demonstrated compliance with associated legislative requirements.

- **DEMONSTRATE A COMMITMENT TO AAP SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

Evidenced by:

- demonstrating commitment to supporting the Australian Antarctic Science Program;
- demonstrating willingness to participate in "common duties" and activities in support of the community generally; and
- demonstrating commitment to fully participate in all required training and associated activities.