Frequently Asked Questions–Ship Sanitation Control Program

Submit your questions to:
usn.hampton-roads.navmcpubhlthcenpors.list.nmcphc-sscec@mail.mil

Who is authorized to issue a Ship Sanitation Certificate (SSC)?
According to BUMEDINST 6210.4, Navy authorized agents to inspect and issue SSCEC/SSCC certificates are: Primary inspectors: Preventive Medicine Technicians (NEC 8432). Navy Environmental Health Officers individually approved by the Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center upon completion of established training criteria. Agents must have a CDC seal issued by NMCPHC to inspect and issue SSC certificates or extensions.

How long is a Ship Sanitation Certificate good for?
The Ship Sanitation Certification is good for six months. The certificate is provided using NAVMED Form 6210/1, U.S. Navy Shipboard Sanitation Control Exemption/Ship Sanitation Control Certificate (SSCEC/SSCC).

Who is authorized to issue an extension for a SSC?
A 30-day extension may be requested from the original inspector or other certified entity when original issuing authority is unavailable. This extension is provided using NAVMED Form 6210/2, Notification of 30 Day Extension of Ship Sanitation Exemption Control Certificate or Ship Sanitation Control Certificate.

How long is an extension good for?
An extension of the SSC is good for 30 days. The extension may be requested from the original issuing authority using NAVMED Form 6210/2, Notification of 30 Day Extension of Ship Sanitation Exemption Control Certificate or Ship Sanitation Control Certificate.

My SSC expires in three months; can I get an extension now?
An extension may be granted up to 30 days before the expiration date of the existing SSC.
Are rat guards needed while in a U.S. port?
OPNAVINST 6210.2 no longer requires the use of rat guards by ships except when the ship is berthed in a port where plague is endemic. However, continuing efforts to prevent entry of rodents onto the ship and sanitary measures to eliminate food and harborage sources aboard the ship are still necessary, particularly in areas where large populations of rodents exist.
Accordingly, there may be instances when commanding officers or medical department representatives determine the use of rat guards to be advisable as an additional protective measure against rodent entry.

I am deployed with no access to other ships or a shore facility and lost/misplaced my original SSC form which has the seal on it. How can I get a new form? Is it okay for it to be mailed to me?
For lost/misplaced SSC forms, contact the original issuing authority for a copy of the form with seal. Mail and/or e-mail are acceptable methods to receive a copy of the original form.

Can SSCs be issued to vessels other than U.S. Navy?
SSCs are issued to Navy, Army, Military Sealift Command (MSC), Coast Guard, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and Maritime Administration (MARAD), National Defense Reserve Fleet (NDRF) vessels.

What happens if my ship needs a SSC? Can I conduct the inspection?
Authorized inspectors serving aboard U.S. Navy ships in which NMCPHC has issued a CDC seal shall neither inspect, nor issue, a SSCP certificate for their own ship; however, they may issue certificates for other allowed vessels.
You may contact the following public health resources for guidance and assistance: (continued on next page).
Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit TWO  
(NEPMU-2)  
1285 West D Street, BLDG U238 Norfolk, VA 23511  
Phone (757) 953-6600  
DSN 377-6600  
E-mail: usn.hampton-roads.navhospporsva.list.nepmu2norfolkfleetsupport@mail.mil  
Website: http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/nepmu2/Pages/default.aspx

Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit FIVE  
(NEPMU–5)  
3235 Albacore Alley  
San Diego, CA 92136–5199  
Phone (619) 556–7070  
DSN (312) 526-7070  
E-mail: usn.san-diego.navenpntmedufive.list.nepmu5-fleet-support@mail.mil  

Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit SIX  
(NEPMU–6)  
385 South Ave Bldg 618  
JBPHH, HI 96860  
Phone (808) 471–0237  
DSN (315) 471-0237  
E-mail: usn.jbphh.navenpntmedusixhi.list.nepmu6-sscec-pac@mail.mil  
Website: http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/nepmu-6/Pages/operational-support.aspx#eh

Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit SEVEN  
(NEPMU–7)  
PSC 819 Box 67  
FPO AE 09645-0085  
Phone: (011)-34-956-82-2230,  
DSN: (314)-727-2230  
Email: NEPMU7@eu.navy.mil  
Website: http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/nepmu-7/Pages/default.aspx