



THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
LIBERIA MARITIME AUTHORITY

22980 Indian Creek Drive
Suite 200
Dulles, Virginia 20166, USA
Tel: +1 703 790 3434
Fax: +1 703 790 5655
Email: MLC@lisr.com
Web: www.lisr.com

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Marine Advisory: 09/2022

(This Marine Advisory supersedes Marine Advisory 08/2022)

SUBJECT: Requirements for crew change for cargo Ships, application for vaccination, granting of shore leave, and for vessels arriving in the Port of Singapore during COVID-19

Reference: a) [Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore \(MPA\) Port Marine Circular 05 of 2022](#)
b) [MPA Port Marine Circular 06 of 2022](#)
c) [MPA Port Marine Circular 08 of 2022](#)

The following changes have been included:

1. The crew changes requirements for fully vaccinated crew have been eased (Section 1 paragraph 1).
2. Restrictions on the length of stay requirements for fully vaccinated crew at the holding facility have been removed (section 2).
3. Some requirements for vessels arriving in the Port of Singapore during COVID-19 have been eased (Section 6.c).
4. The restrictions on shore leave for fully vaccinated crew have been eased (Section 7.a).

Dear Shipowners/Operators/SRPS/Seafarers:

The purpose of this Marine Advisory is to provide shipowners, operators, seafarers' recruitment and placement services (SRPS), and seafarers with the current COVID-19 requirements for vessels arriving at the Port of Singapore concerning operations, crew change, crew vaccination, and granting of shore leave.

Owners, agents and masters of vessels arriving at the Port of Singapore are reminded of their responsibility to implement and comply with all prevailing requirements and measures of the Singapore authorities to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission in Singapore, particularly safe management measures directly applicable to vessels in the Port of Singapore.

1. Requirements for crew change

Effective 1 April 2022, fully vaccinated sign on and off crew can enter Singapore under the Vaccinated Travel Framework as Short-Term Visitor. Applications are to be made directly to the ICA CREW system via digital PORT@SG™. More information can be obtained from the ICA website <https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg/arriving/general-travel/fully-vaccinated> or contact ICA at 6377 5939.

However, for non-vaccinated signing-on and -off, please continue to apply via the Crew Change System <https://transact.mpa.gov.sg/Crews> The user guide for the new Crew Change System can be downloaded at this <https://file.go.gov.sg/mpa-ccs-icc-usermanual.pdf>. The requirements are as follows:

a. Non-vaccinated Signing-on crew

- i. Required to serve Stay-Home-Notice (SHN) in the crew's originating country/region in the period immediately prior to his/her departure flight/ferry to Singapore. Please refer to ICA's website <https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg> for the latest list of countries/regions and their respective SHN period.
- ii. The non-vaccinated crew must have a negative result from a COVID-19 (polymerase chain reaction (PCR) type) or a negative, professionally administered Antigen Rapid test (ART) result taken at his/her originating country, not more than two (2) days prior to departure for Singapore.
- iii. Engage Meet and Greet at the airport.
- iv. Dedicated transport to be provided for the non-vaccinated crew only.

b. Non-vaccinated signing-off crew

- i. Direct transfer from vessel to airport/holding facility without any detour.
- ii. Pre-departure test (if applicable) to be carried out at dedicated holding facility only.
- iii. Dedicated transport to be provided for the non-vaccinated crew only.

2. Designated crew change holding facilities in Singapore

Non-vaccinated sign-on crew and sign-off crew may only stay at the designated holding facilities in Singapore for up to 24 hours.

3. Holding areas at Marine South Pier and West Coast Pier

- a. All non-vaccinated crew that utilizes Marina South Pier (MSP) or West Coast Pier (WCP) shall remain at the designated holding areas while waiting to clear immigration. Should the holding area be full, the non-vaccinated crew shall remain in their private transportation.
- b. For non-vaccinated sign-off crew, the dedicated transportation shall be ready and waiting so that the non-vaccinated crew can depart MSP/WCP immediately upon clearing immigration and do not need to crowd up the holding area.
- c. Agents and appointed drivers are responsible for ensuring that the non-vaccinated crew remain in the holding area or private vehicle at all times.
- d. Land transport drivers and launch boat operators shall keep all windows open when ferrying sign-on/off crew, as far as practicable. They shall always maintain safe distancing and shall not handle the non-vaccinated crew's belongings at any time. The seats and other frequently touched surfaces shall be disinfected after each trip.

4. COVID-19 Pre-Departure Testing in Singapore

- a. MPA notes that some countries require travelers to take a COVID-19 pre-departure test (PDT) and present a valid negative test result before they are allowed to transit through or enter. **Please**

be reminded that MPA's approval shall be sought for non-vaccinated signing-off crew to take PDT in Singapore.

- b. For crew change applications where the non-vaccinated sign-off crew requires PDT before departing Singapore, medical service provider shall carry out the PDT in the dedicated holding facility after receiving approval from MPA. COVID positive crew shall isolate and recover in the dedicated holding facility, in accordance to prevailing health protocol in Singapore.

5. Crew Vaccination Application

Under the SEAVAX program, MPA is able to facilitate the vaccination of crew in Singapore. Shipowners/managers/agents may apply for the crew's vaccination at the following link <https://go.gov.sg/mpa-icc-seavax> at least three (3) days prior to the vessel's arrival in Singapore.

Shipowners/managers/agents shall submit applications before the planned crew change. <https://go.gov.sg/mpa-ccs-icc>

6. Requirements for Vessels Arriving in the Port of Singapore during Covid-19

- a. Owners, agents, and masters of vessels are strongly encouraged to conduct operations (e.g., cargo operations, bunkering, ship's supplies, and stores, and other marine services in a contactless manner or contactless with segregation protocol.
- b. The owner, agent, or master of the vessel in port must establish and apply procedures and adequate controls to ensure the safety of shore-based personnel and the vessel's crew. Failure to comply with the requirements may result in a breach of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (Port) Regulations or the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020.
- c. All vessel's crew must observe the following good practices on safe management measures while in the Port of Singapore:
 - i. Wear a mask at all times when inside the enclosed areas of the vessel (e.g., accommodation space, enclosed wheelhouse/bridge, engine room, ship office, meeting room, cabin, saloon) unless the work activity requires that no mask be worn;
 - ii. Maintain at least one meter apart from each other when not wearing mask; and
 - iii. Maintain good hygiene in the vessel's accommodation areas by cleaning frequently touched surfaces (e.g., desk, chart tables, dining tables, bridge/engine room consoles, door handles, handholds, switches, telephones/VHF handsets, faucets).
- d. If any of the vessel crew took COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test at their last port of call, the owner, master, or agent of the vessel shall ensure that the PCR test results are submitted to MPA email: pms@mpa.gov.sg before the vessel arrives in the Port of Singapore.

7. Requirement for granting shore Leave for Crew Working Onboard Vessels Visiting the Port of Singapore

- a. With effect from 1 April 2022, fully vaccinated ships' crew visiting the Port of Singapore will be granted shore leave.
- b. Fully vaccinated ships' crew who wish to go ashore while in the port shall present the following documents to the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) officer at the checkpoints:
 - i. Certificate of negative Antigen Rapid Test (ART) supervised by **approved licensed providers in Singapore** taken within two days before disembarking the vessel;
 - ii. Valid overseas/Singapore vaccination certificate;
 - iii. Valid passport;
 - iv. SGAC/e-HDC; and
 - v. Valid visa (if applicable)

If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact mlc@liscr.com.

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