



BOAT OPERATION CLASS

This is 2-part requirement for qualifying to reserve, rent or operate powerboats (motorized) at Patrick AFB Outdoor Recreation:

Minimum Age Requirement is 21, or 18 for Active-duty Military Personnel

All Requirements Apply Regardless of Age / Birth Date. Both Certifications are Valid for Life.

1st REQUIREMENT:

Complete and Pass the BoatUS Foundation's Online Florida Boating Safety Course

- Online course is FREE.
- Course takes a minimum of 3½ Hours + to complete. Your online course progress can be saved if you need to finish over the course of additional login sessions.
- Go to: <http://www.boatus.org/florida>

The course instructions on the BoatUS web page are self-explanatory.

Upon finishing, you will need to print out an extra copy of your certificate so that you can provide it to Patrick AFB ODR to sign up for our boating class and to keep on file as proof of your qualification.

2nd REQUIREMENT:

Take the Patrick AFB Outdoor Safe Boat Operation Class

- Advance registration at ODR - including BoatUS certificate printout - is mandatory.
- Cost: \$25, payable upon class registration.
- Class offered on Saturdays and Mondays (major holiday weeks excluded)
- 2-hour class: 9:30 - 11:30 am

The ODR boating class focuses on safe boat operation by means of hands-on instruction and guidance. The goal is to ensure that all participants are capable of safely operating a powerboat.

Topics covered are the basics of:

- ✓ ODR-specific boating safety requirements and prohibited activities
- ✓ Our local boating area limitations and navigating local waters / avoiding shallows
- ✓ Weather restrictions and VHF radio communication
- ✓ General boat operation and planning
- ✓ Watersports towing
- ✓ Anchoring
- ✓ Docking

All students will be required to demonstrate their ability to operate and dock a boat with reasonable skill and confidence. If you are new to boating, don't worry - we'll walk you through it step-by-step to help you feel comfortable and confident at the helm.

Each class session is limited to 4 students in order to allow for adequate time and attention devoted to each individual in need of hands-on instruction and guidance.

Anyone who cannot demonstrate the ability to safely operate and dock a boat due to needing more time and practice, will not be qualified to rent a boat and will need to sign up for a second class session, if they choose to do so.

NOTE: *Classes are subject to cancellation / rescheduling in the event of adverse weather conditions. Please call Outdoor Recreation: **321 - 494-2042** on the morning of your class, to confirm whether or not class will be held.*