



From desk of:
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Noting that time was of the essence I worked with the local CBP team on the below statement which summarizes our conversation on April 3, 2025. Because the admissibility of every applicant for admission is based on the facts unique to that applicant at the moment, they present themselves for inspection it is difficult to prepare a document which states a person is admissible as long as the following occurs. With this caveat, this is what we drafted.

CBP assess each applicant for admission on a case-by-case basis. A foreign national with a valid unexpired passport and B1 nonimmigrant visa (unless otherwise exempt) who maintains a foreign residence may be admitted to the U.S. to serve as a private vessel crewmember (see 9 FAM 402.2-5(C)(5)), providing:

- The individual has a contract to work on a private vessel.
- The crewmember maintains a foreign residence they do not intend to abandon.
- The crewmember will perform “traditional” crew duties necessary for the normal ongoing operations of the vessel.
- The crewmember’s movement onboard the vessel is connected to the vessel’s international arrival, departure, or both. For example, the crewmember is serving or joining a private vessel which is arriving from foreign or departing foreign during their period of admission to the U.S.

Non-immigrant crewmembers may not perform any major repair, refits, or shipyard work while their vessel is undergoing dry dock maintenance at a U.S. shipyard unless otherwise permitted. While a private vessel is in dry dock crew members may perform the routine repairs and maintenance to the vessel they would normally undertake in the course of their duties when the vessel is not in a shipyard.