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Danish Maritime Authority Order no. 131 of 23 February 2009

Order on subsidies for work-experience placements on ships

In pursuance of section 17 of Act no. 226 of 22 April 2002 on maritime training programmes and in accordance with the authority granted, the following provisions are laid down:

Application

Section 1. The Danish Maritime Authority shall pay subsidies to shipping companies for employing seafarers who, as part of an approved training programme, complete prescribed work-experience periods on Danish merchant ships on the basis of an approved training agreement.

Subsection 2. The subsidy shall partly cover wages, meals and travelling expenses. The subsidy shall be calculated per day and shall amount to DKK 20,000 per three-month actual duration of service. Subsidies shall be paid only for the prescribed work-experience period that is related to the training programme in question.

Subsection 3. The seafarer shall serve as a supernumerary, i.e. the person in question shall not form part of the manning determined in accordance with the Danish Act on the Manning of Ships. The correct designation of occupation shall be evident from the articles of agreement. The service as a supernumerary shall be carried out with a training record book, where required.

Section 2. Subsidies shall be paid to seafarers who complete the prescribed work-experience as part of their training for:

- 1) Ship Officers (Professional Bachelor of Maritime Transport and Ship Management).
- 2) Marine Engineers (Professional Bachelor of Technology Management and Marine Engineering).
- 3) Marine Engineers serving for six months in the machinery department after completed Marine Engineer's Examination (Junior Officer).
- 4) Navigation Officers (Master, Master (home trade) and Master (restricted)).
- 5) Dual Purpose Officers on ships of less than 3,000 GT and with an output of less than 3,000 kW (DP3000).
- 6) Mechanists.
- 7) Ship Assistants.
- 8) Ship Cooks.

Section 3. Subsidies may also be granted to Ship Mechanic Trainees, i.e. Ordinary Ship Assistants who have concluded a training agreement in accordance with the rules on training of Ship Mechanics.

Subsection 2. For Ship Mechanic Trainees, subsidies may be paid for work-experience placements in companies ashore which are approved for training places within the iron and metal industries; however, subsidies shall be paid for no more than six months of the ordinary work-experience period of 24 months, or in case of shorter stays at schools approved by the Danish Maritime Authority in connection with work-experience.

Section 4. Work-experience subsidies may be granted for Danish, including Faroese and Greenland, and other EU and EEA citizens when the students' work-experience forms part of a Danish maritime training programme approved by the Danish Maritime Authority.

Approval of shipping companies

Section 5. Subsidies shall be granted only for work-experience periods on ships belonging to shipping companies approved as work-experiences places.

Subsection 2. The shipping companies shall ensure that the work-experience and the training are completed in accordance with the approval.

Section 6. The approval shall be conditional upon the shipping company documenting that it can provide comprehensive training on merchant ships in accordance with the requirements made for the training programme in question.

Subsection 2. The shipping company shall:

- 1) use merchant ships for the training programme that, as regards size, output, operational conditions, equipment, manning and the experience and workload of the crew, may function as an effective work-experience place at sea;
- 2) designate an officer on board responsible for the training of the trainees; and
- 3) conclude a written training agreement with the seafarer, which
 - a) contains the shipping company's obligations as regards contents and completion of the prescribed work-experience period;
 - b) guarantees the necessary work-experience in order to complete the training programme; and
 - c) contains documentation that wages will be paid during the work-experience period.

Subsection 2. An approval may also include cooperation between more shipping companies.

Section 7. The Danish Maritime Authority or an educational institution authorised by the Danish Maritime Authority may approve shipping companies for establishing work-experience places.

Subsection 2. Immediately after having granted an approval, the educational institution shall inform the Danish Maritime Authority hereof.

Subsection 3. Applications for approval shall describe how the requirements stipulated in section 6 are met.

Subsection 4. Applications shall as a minimum contain the following:

- 1) a record of the ship types used for the training programme;
- 2) a copy of the shipping company's guidelines for the ships on how to carry out the training programme; and
- 3) a copy of the training agreement used, for example a standard agreement concluded between the shipping company and the seafarer.

Section 8. As soon as possible after the conclusion of a training agreement, the shipping company shall submit information about the seafarer's name and civil registration number as well as about the training programme to be completed to the Danish Maritime Authority.

Section 9. The shipping company shall inform the institution which has granted the approval under section 7(1) about important changes to the basis on which the approval has been granted.

Subsection 2. A shipping company which has been granted an approval, but which, due to special circumstances, has difficulties meeting the requirements shall inform the institution which has granted the approval under section 7(1) of this, whereafter the institution shall decide on what conditions an approval may be continued or whether it shall be discontinued. Immediately after having decided that such an approval shall be discontinued, the training institution shall inform the Danish Maritime Authority hereof.

Payment of subsidies

Section 10. The Danish Maritime Authority shall pay subsidies biannually for the previous period. Applications for subsidies shall be submitted to the Danish Maritime Authority no later than 28 February and 30 September for the previous six months. If the Danish Maritime Authority has not received the application within this time-limit, the right to receive work-experience subsidies shall cease.

Subsection 2. If a seafarer's work-experience is divided between different shipping companies, the Danish Maritime Authority shall distribute the subsidies between the shipping companies in accordance with the effective duration of service. Information shall be submitted about how the work-experience period is divided between the relevant shipping companies.

Section 11. If a shipping company has received subsidies for the reduction of wage, meals or travelling expenses from another public authority, the subsidies shall be reduced accordingly.

Subsection 2. It shall not be possible to receive work-experience subsidies if the seafarer receives other income during the work-experience period, such as under the Danish students' grants and loans scheme or unemployment benefits.

Section 12. Subsidies or reimbursements may cease in part or completely if misinformation is provided or information of importance to the payment of subsidies or reimbursement is not given. Under similar circumstances, subsidies already paid may be required returned.

Entry into force, etc.

Section 13. This Order shall enter into force on 25 February 2009.

Subsection 2. At the same time the following shall be repealed:

- 1) Sections 1-3 of Order no. 1120 of 14 December 2000 on subsidies for work-experience placements, etc. at sea.
- 2) Guidance of 9 December 1997 on approval of shipping companies forming part of the training programme for ship officer candidates.

Subsection 3. As regards work-experience initiated in the period from 1 June to 31 December 2008, reimbursement may be paid according to the provisions of this Order.

Subsection 4. In 2009, the time-limit of 28 February for the submittal of applications for subsidies under section 10(1) shall be extended to 20 March.

Subsection 5. Shipping companies approved as of 1 August 2005 according to the training system for ship officers previously in force shall continue to be approved if they have structured and organized their training programmes in the same way as when the approvals were granted.

Revisions

Section 14. This Order, which has been issued in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) no. 800/2008 of 6 August 2008 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the common market in application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty (General block exemption Regulation), shall be revised in 2014.

The Danish Maritime Authority, 23 February 2009
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