



Who Teaches Boating Safety?

Various public and private institutions in Illinois teach boating safety and issue boating valid licenses and certificates. Some are listed below with links to their respective websites.

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1. [US Coast Guard](#) and [US Coast Guard Auxiliary](#)
2. [Illinois Online Education for Authorization to Operate Vessels \(Mandatory if Born After 1/1/1998 and >= 10 hp\)](#)
 1. [Boat Ed- Illinois](#)
 2. [Ace Boater](#)
 3. [Learn To Boat](#)
3. Illinois would accept a "certificate issued by" another state or the Coast Guard. ("A person over the age of 12 years who holds a valid certificate issued by another state, a province of the Dominion of Canada, the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary or the United States Power Squadron need not obtain a certificate from the Department if the course content of the program in such other state, province or organization substantially meets that established by the Department under this Section. A certificate issued by the Department or by another state, province of the Dominion of Canada or approved organization shall not constitute an operator's license, but shall certify only that the student has successfully passed a course in boating safety instruction." (625 ILCS 45/5-18))

4. [Chicago Maritime School](#)
5. [Freedom Boat Club – Boat Class](#)
6. [Boat Safe Chicago](#)
7. [Boat US](#)
8. [BoatED](#)
9. [Commander Bob](#)

Sailing Focused

10. [US Sailing](#)
 1. **Safety at Sea**
Primarily for sailors, a safety course for serious offshore and night conditions.
 2. While mostly “learn to sail” or improving racing performance Powerboat Operation taught because racing sailors use powerboats to run races and provide safety backup and coaching for sailors
11. American Sailing Association
12. Storm Trysail Club
Originated Safety at Sea
13. [Chicago Harbor Safety Committee Safe Boating Chicago](#)

Local Yacht Clubs Offering Programs

- The yacht clubs can be different, ranging from a world class one, through all volunteer neighborhood clubs in most harbors.
- Safety programs at the yacht clubs are nearly always open to the public, sometimes free, and never more than a nominal cost.

Chicago Yachting Association - Look at Calendar or Events

“Downtown” Yacht Clubs

- **Chicago** Monroe Street and also Belmont
- **Columbia** The Ship
- **Burnham Park** The Museum Campus, and Across from Soldier Field

“Neighborhood” Yacht Clubs

- [Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club](#) Montrose Harbor
- [Belmont](#)
- [Diversey](#)
- [Museum Shores](#) 59th Street Harbor
- [Southern Shore](#) Jackson Park Inner Harbor
- [Jackson Park](#) Jackson Park Outer Harbor

Illinois - [Boater Exam](#)

Canadian Corporation Fresh Air Educators, Inc.

14. US Power Squadron (Power & Sail Squadron)

Social Media

1. [Chicago Boaters](#)
2. [Corinthian University](#)
3. [CYC Crew U](#)
4. [Columbia Skipjacks](#)
5. [Jackson Park Yacht Club](#)