

## Requirements

A person is required to Register with the state of Maine annually in order to engage in recreational saltwater fishing *unless* that person meets one of the following exemptions. Proof of being Registered or documentation of exemption from the Registry requirement must be carried at all times while recreational saltwater fishing or transporting caught fish.

### You are exempt from Registering if:

- You are *under* 16 years of age.
- You hold a valid Maine *freshwater* fishing license (*not a Lifetime License\**) and you indicated on your license whether or not you engaged in saltwater recreational fishing during the prior year.
- You hold a valid ME Commercial fishing license and you have indicated on that license whether or not you engaged in saltwater recreational fishing during the prior year.
- You are a *Maine resident* and are recreational saltwater fishing only on Memorial Day weekend, July 4th or Labor Day weekend.
- You are a member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians or the Aroostook Band of Micmacs.
- You are fishing as a passenger on a for-hire vessel (charter or head/party boat) captained by an individual who possesses a valid recreational saltwater fishing Operator's License.
- You are fishing from a dock, pier or wharf that is owned by someone who possesses a valid recreational saltwater fishing Operator's License.
- You are renting a smelt fishing camp from someone who possesses a valid recreational saltwater fishing Operator's License.
- You are registered/licensed to engage in saltwater recreational fishing in another state, or with the National Registry.

**\*If your Maine *freshwater* fishing license is a *Lifetime License***, then you are *not* covered by that license for saltwater recreational fishing in Maine. You will need to check to see if you qualify for any of the other exemptions, above, and if you do not, then you are required to *annually* Register for recreational saltwater fishing.

### Registering can be done in one of 4 ways:

- Online for \$1 at [www.maine.gov/saltwater](http://www.maine.gov/saltwater).
- By mail: [Download an application form](#), print it, fill it out, and mail it in with \$1 payment.
- In-person for \$1 at the ME Department of Marine Resources' (DMR) Licensing office in Augusta, at 32 Blossom Lane (in the old AMHI Complex on the east side of the Kennebec River) ([directions](#)).
- In-person at any ME Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife appointed license agent for \$2. ME DIF&W license agents include all Town Offices, larger tackle shops, major outdoor stores, and other outlets such as country stores. (Please clarify with the agent if it's only the saltwater fishing Registration you wish to purchase.)