

FISHING GUIDE LICENSES

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires a license of an individual who accepts payment, direct or indirect, for providing services as a fishing guide.

This is a summary of the requirements that apply to all license types issued in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §§4-210 and 4-210.1, Annotated Code of Maryland. It does **not** cover commercial fishing guide licenses issued in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §4-701, Annotated Code of Maryland.

There are three types of licenses available (NT, NTT, and L) and each type of license permits fishing in different areas under different conditions. Please consult the specific summary to determine which license suits your needs.

Licensee Requirements

(1) In addition to a fishing guide license (Type NT, NTT, or L), a licensee shall possess, as applicable, the following when engaged in fishing guide activities:

- (a) A valid angler's license in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §4-604, Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (b) A valid Chesapeake Bay sportfishing license in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §4-745, Annotated Code of Maryland; and
- (c) Any necessary stamps issued by the Department.

(2) If guiding from a vessel, a licensee shall also possess a valid license issued by the U. S. Coast Guard.

Safety Requirements

An individual shall, at the time of application for a Type NT, NTT, or L fishing guide license, provide a valid copy of the following documentation:

- (1) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation certificate (CPR); and
- (2) American Red Cross First Aid Certification or equivalent.

Angler Requirements

An individual guided by a licensee shall possess, as applicable:

- (1) A valid angler's license in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §4-604, Annotated Code of Maryland,
- (2) A valid Chesapeake Bay sportfishing license in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §4-745, Annotated Code of Maryland; and
- (3) Any necessary stamps issued by the Department.

Dividing Lines

The dividing lines for tidal and nontidal waters are designated in Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 08.02.11.10.

Fishing Restriction

A licensee may not possess fish for personal use while providing fishing guide services.

Term

A fishing guide license is valid from the date of issuance through December 31 of each year following the date of issuance.

Renewal

A licensee may renew a fishing guide license for an additional one year term. Contact a Licensing Service Center for specific details of renewal.