

***Important information for guides who intend to use a power boat while guiding:***

Note that anyone operating a motorized marine vessel for hire must obtain a Public Vessel license to comply with §50 of the NYS Navigation Law. These services are conducted by the NYS Parks – Marine Services Bureau.

A Public vessel is defined in §2 of the NYS Navigation Law as: every vessel which is propelled in whole or in part by mechanical power and is used or operated for commercial purposes on the navigable waters of the state.

[New York State Parks Boating Resources](#) page includes the paperwork necessary for anyone operating a motorized vessel for hire to comply with §50 of the NYS Navigation Law. This page includes the [Public Vessel Operator's study guide](#), applications for a Public Vessel license and the application for certification of a Public Vessel. A Public Vessel inspection and license is required in all circumstances as defined above, there are no exemptions for holding a NYS DEC Guides License.

If the above applies to you, you will need to obtain a New York State Joint Pilot & Engineer license. This license is issued by the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (OPRHP). For more information please [click here](#) to go to OPRHP.