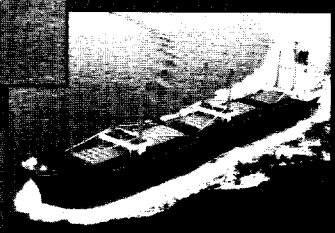


Information Concerning Employment and Training in the U.S. Merchant Marine



U.S. Department of Transportation
Maritime Administration

INTRODUCTION

Many fascinating careers are available in the maritime industry. It offers:

- ◆ Extensive travel
- ◆ Adventure
- ◆ Responsibility
- ◆ Excellent pay and benefits

The maritime career path leads to the following shipboard departments:

- ◆ **Steward/hotel**—food services, sanitation, and accommodations
- ◆ **Engineering**—propulsion, maintenance and management
- ◆ **Deck**—navigation, cargo handling, and management

A high school graduate can attain maritime industry employment in one of the following ways:

- ◆ Contacting a maritime affiliated company or union directly
- ◆ Attending a maritime technical training school
- ◆ Attending a maritime academy or college

The U.S. merchant marine consists of a fleet of privately owned U.S. registered merchant ships that provide waterborne transportation for cargoes moving in domestic and international commerce. Employment on these ships is the responsibility of the owners and is handled for the most part by maritime labor unions. Part-time or summer employment is not available. The level of seafaring employment is determined by the state of U.S. and world business conditions and improvements in ship technology.

This pamphlet provides information on shipboard employment and related maritime education and training programs. Primary shipboard employment categories include high seas, Great Lakes, inland waters and offshore oil and mineral operations. Other areas of employment in the

maritime industry include shipbuilding and ship repair, longshoring (cargo handling), port terminal administration, and intermodal logistics.

TYPICAL HIGH SEAS SALARIES

Crew members of American merchant ships enjoy excellent pay, and working and living conditions. Most jobs provide 13 days or more paid vacation for each 30 days worked. An example of typical pay on a modern merchant vessel is shown below:

OFFICER RATINGS	<i>Monthly Base Wage</i>	<i>9095 Overtime</i>	<i>Total</i>
Third Assistant Engineer	\$3510	\$3175	\$6685
Third Mate	\$3510	\$3175	\$6685
Radio Officer	\$4938	\$4466	\$9404
CREW RATINGS			
Able Seaman	\$2419	\$2188	\$4607
QMED	\$3441	\$3113	\$6554
Engine Utility	\$2500	\$2261	\$4761
Chief Cook	\$2528	\$2287	\$4815
Food Handler	\$1680	\$1519	\$3199

UNITED STATES MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

The Maritime Administration (MARAD) has Regional Offices in areas of concentrated shipping activity and can provide information on seafaring employment and training. MARAD also is responsible for the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York. Addresses and telephone numbers are:

Maritime Administration
 North Atlantic Region Director
 1 Bowling Green Room 418
 New York, NY 10004-14 t5
 Telephone: 212-668-3330

Maritime Administration
 South Atlantic Region Director
 7737 Hampton Boulevard
 Building 4D, Room 211
 Norfolk, VA 23505
 Telephone: 757-441-6393

Maritime Administration
 Great Lakes Region Director
 2860 South River Road
 Suite 185
 Des Plaines, IL 60018-2413
 Telephone: 847-298-4535

Maritime Administration
 Central Region Director
 501 Magazine Street
 Room 1223
 New Orleans, LA 70130-3394
 Telephone: 504-589-2000

Maritime Administration
 Western Region Director
 201 Mission Street
 Suite 2200
 San Francisco, CA 94105-1905
 Telephone: 415-744-3125

Superintendent
 U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
 Kings Point, NY 11024-1699
 Telephone: 516-773-5000

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

The United States Coast Guard is the regulatory agency under the auspices of the Department of Transportation that is responsible for licensing and documentation of all US. merchant mariners at United States Coast Guard Regional Examination Centers (REQ). Prospective applicants for se employment are encouraged to contact the nearest office for local advice and explanation of regulations.

Listed below are locations of U.S. Coast Guard Regional Examination Centers (RECs):

ALASKA, Anchorage
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety Office (REC),
510 L St., Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99501-1946
907-271-6736

ALASKA, Juneau
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety Office (REC)
2760 Sherwood Lane, Suite 2A,
Juneau, AK 99801-8545
907-463-2458

CALIFORNIA, San Francisco Bay
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety Office (REC)
Building 14, Coast Guard Island,
Alameda, CA 94501-5100
510-437-5381

CALIFORNIA, Long Beach
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety Office/
Group LA-LB (REC)
1001 South Seaside Ave., Bldg. 20
San Pedro, CA 90731-0208
310-732-2080

FLORIDA, Miami U.S. Coast Guard,
Marine Safety Office (REC)
Claude Pepper Federal Building
51 S.W. First Avenue, 6th Floor
Miami, FL 33130-1608
305-536-6548/6549/6874 or
800-982-9374

HAWAII, Honolulu U.S. Coast Guard,
Marine Safety Office (REC)
433 Ala Moana Boulevard
Honolulu, HI 96813-4909
808-522-8264

LOUISIANA, New Orleans U.S. Coast
Guard, Marine Safety Office (REC)
9820 Lake Forest Blvd., Suite P
New Orleans, LA 70127-3077
504-589-6183/4/5

MARYLAND Baltimore Commander
Activities (REC)
U.S. Custom House, Room 420
40 South Gay Street
Baltimore, MD 21202- 4022
410-962-5132/33/34/35

MASSACHUSETTS, Boston
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety
Office (REC)
445 Commercial Street
Boston, MA 02109-1045
617-223-3040/41

MISSOURI, St Louis
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety
Office (REC)
1222 Spruce Street, Suite 8.104E
St. Louis, MO 63103-2835
314-539-3091

NEW YORK, New York
USCG Activities New York (REC)
Battery Park Building, 1 South St.
New York, NY 10004-8545
212-668-7492

OHIO, Toledo
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety
Office (REC)
Suite 700
420 Madison Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604
419-418-6010

OREGON, Portland
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety
Office (REC)
6767 N. Basin Avenue
Portland, OR 97217-3992
503-240-9346

SOUTH CAROLINA, Charleston
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety
Office (REC)
196 Tradd Street
Charleston, SC 29401-1899
803-724-7693
800-826-1511

TENNESSEE, Memphis
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety
Office (REC)
200 Jefferson Avenue, Suite 1302
Memphis, TN 38103-2300
901-544-3297

TEXAS, Houston
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety
Office (REC)
8876 Gulf Freeway Suite 200,
Houston, TX 77017-6595
713-948-3350/51

WASHINGTON, Puget Sound
U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety
Office (REC)
1519 Alaskan Way South
Bldg. 1
Seattle, WA 98134-1192
206-217-6115

THE MERCHANT MARINER'S DOCUMENT

Merchant Mariner's Documents (MMD) are issued by an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI), as required by applicable laws. With certain exceptions, no one may be employed on a U.S.-flag merchant vessel of 100 gross tons or over without a MMD issued by one of the U.S. Coast Guard Regional Examination Centers (REC's) previously listed above. All MMD's expire five years from the issue date, and therefore, must be renewed within that five year period. Renewals may be completed by mail.

Application for an original MMD: No evidence of service is required to obtain an entry level rating. An applicant must present evidence of passing a drug test, a social security card, and proof of legal entry into the United States. For mariners wishing to have their entry level MMD endorsed for international service, evidence of medical fitness (agility, ability, and strength) is

required, Evidence of service, and in some cases evidence of approved training, must be presented to establish service qualifications for individuals seeking qualified ratings. The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) requires extensive training for mariners in qualified ratings who wish to sail internationally.

Applicants must meet the following general requirements:

a) Applicants must be at least 16 years of age. An applicant between 16 and 18 years of age must present a notarized statement of parental or guardian's consent.

b) The mariner must furnish three unmounted dull-finished photographs of passport type (2 inches by 1.5 inches) taken within one year showing the full face at least one inch in height with the head uncovered. Some REC's are equipped with cameras for this purpose. Before purchasing photos, check with the REC at which you plan to apply.

c) Applicants who indicate the use of drugs or conviction of drug related offenses, other criminal convictions or National Driver Register motor vehicle convictions may not be eligible for an MMD.

d) Applicants must present acceptable evidence of citizenship at the time of filing the original application. Acceptable evidence of citizenship includes an original or certified copy of: birth certificate; certificate of naturalization (only original is acceptable); baptismal certificate; or a valid U.S. passport.

e) Aliens applying for a MMD must present acceptable documentary evidence from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) that the alien is lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence. This evidence may be in the form of an alien registration receipt card issued by the INS bearing the certification that the alien was admitted to the United States as

an immigrant, or a declaration of intention to become a citizen of the U.S. issued by a naturalization court.

For additional information concerning qualifications, requirements and interpretations of applicable regulations and policy, contact the nearest REC. There is a fee for the issuance of an MMD.

MARITIME EMPLOYMENT

HIGH SEAS

Employment on U.S.-flag cargo ships is handled by maritime labor unions and ship operators. Information on high seas shipboard employment is available through the following industry contacts:

Seafarers International Union
Piney Point, MD 20674
800-732-2739
Internet: www.seafarers.org

Sailors Union of the Pacific
450 Harrison St.
San Francisco CA 94105
415-777-3400
Internet: www.sailors.org

Marine Firemen's Union
240 Second St.
San Francisco CA 94105
415-362-4592

American Maritime Officers
490 L'Enfant Plaza East, SW, Suite 7204
Washington, DC 20024
202-479-1166

Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, District No.1-MEBA
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001
202-638-5355

International Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots
700 Maritime Boulevard
Linthicum Heights, MD 21090
410-850-8700

Military Sealift Command, (MSC)
Department of the Navy, operates numerous merchant-type ships manned by civilian crews employed under Civil Service regulations. Previous U.S. Navy or U.S. Coast Guard experience is a major consideration in filling available jobs. Salaries of civilian crew members aboard MSC ships are based on wage rates and practices which are similar to the commercial shipping industry. The MSC employment office is as follows:

Director, Afloat Personnel Management Center
P.O. Box 120
Virginia Beach, VA 23458-0120
800-793-4628
Internet: www.msc.navy.mil

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, operates high seas and inland oceanographic research and survey vessels. Most of the operating personnel are under civil service regulations. Detailed employment information is available on the internet at www.jobs.doc.gov

Other Contacts, The names and addresses of all U.S.-flag steamship companies and maritime labor unions are available in MARAD's "Maritime Labor-Management Affiliations Guide" which is a publication available on MARAD's website, www.marad.dot.gov; follow link to Publications.

GREAT LAKES, COASTAL AND INLAND WATERS

The Lake Carriers Association, Suite 915, 614 West Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, 44113, can furnish information regarding employment opportunities for marine personnel on the Great Lakes. Telephone: 216-861-0592, or email: ggn@lcaships.com.

Their website is: www.lcaships.com

The American Waterways Operators (AWO) is the national trade association for the tugboat, towboat, and barge industry. AWO is comprised of 375 member companies that serve the diverse needs of U.S. shippers and consumers. AWO members operate throughout the United States on America's rivers; canals; in its ports and harbors; on the Great Lakes; and on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts. For information on the tugboat, towboat, and barge industry and a list of AWO's member companies, log on to www.americanwaterways.com.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, operates floating equipment which is used to maintain and improve the Nation's waterways. These vessels are also manned by civilian crews who are employed under civil service regulations. Employment opportunities are very limited. Federal employment opportunities with the Corps of Engineers are advertised with the Office of Personnel Management on the internet at www.usajobs.opm.gov.

OFFSHORE OIL AND MINERAL

Offshore Marine Services Association, Inc. (OMSA) is an association of companies that includes oil and mineral vessels such as crew and supply boats that support offshore oil and mineral industry oil rigs and platforms in the Gulf of Mexico and other locations. OMSA's website contains listings of companies and employment contacts on the internet at www.offshoremarine.org.

MARITIME EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and six State maritime academies provide merchant marine officer education and training programs that take at least four (4) years to complete. The Seafarers International Union's Paul Hall Center provides crew apprenticeship training which

takes approximately one (1) year to complete. Some of the other programs listed below also offer continuing education or skills upgrading training. Certain courses at labor operated schools are for members only. Student costs, enrollment levels and entry qualifications will vary. A list of principal schools follows:



Federal Merchant Marine Academy

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
Kings Point, NY 11024
516-773-5000
Internet: www.usmma.edu

State Maritime Academies

State University of New York Maritime College
6 Pennyfield Avenue
Throgs Neck, Bronx, NY 10465
718-409-7220 or 1-800-654-1874 in New York State, or 1-800-642-1874 in the Northeast email: www.admissions@sunymaritime.edu
Internet: www.sunymaritime.edu

Maine Maritime Academy
Admissions Office
Castine, ME 04420
1-800-464 6565 in Maine, or
1-800-227-8465 out-of-state
email: admissions@bell.mma.edu

Texas A&M University at Galveston
P.O. Box 1675 Galveston, TX 77553-1675
1-877-322-4443
email: seaaggie@tamug.tamu.edu
Internet: tamug.tamu.edu/corps/index.html

Massachusetts Maritime Academy
101 Academy Drive
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532
1-800-544-3411 or 508-830-5000
email: admissions@mma.mass.edu
Internet: mma.mass.edu/mma.html

California Maritime Academy
200 Maritime Academy Drive
Vallejo, CA 94590-8181
1-800-561-1945 or 707-654-1330
[email: admission.csum.edu](mailto:admission.csum.edu)
Internet: www.csum.edu

Great Lakes Maritime Academy
Northwestern Michigan College
Traverse City, MI 49686-3061
231-995-1200 or 1-800-748-0566 ext.1200
Internet: www.nmc.edulmaritime

Maritime Labor-Operated Schools

The Seafarers International Union
Paul Hall Center
Piney Point, MD 20674
301-994-0010 or 1-877-235-3275
Internet: www.seafaxers.org

Andrew Furuseth School Of Seamanship
450 Harrison Street
San Francisco, CA 94405
415-777-3400
Internet: www.sailors.org

Calhoon MEBA Engineering School
27050 St. Michaels Road,
Easton MD 21601
410-822-9600
[email: mebaschool@mebaschool.org](mailto:mebaschool@mebaschool.org)
Internet: www.mebaschool.org

Maritime Institute of Technology &
Graduate Studies
5700 Hammonds Ferry Road
Linthicum Heights, MD 21090
410-859-5700
[email: admissions@mitags.org](mailto:admissions@mitags.org)
Internet: www.mitags.org

American Maritime Officers Safety &
Education Plan- RTM Center for
Advanced Maritime Officers Training/
RTM STAR Center
2 West Dixie Highway
Dania Beach, FL 33004
TEL (800) 445-4522, (954) 921-7254
FAX (800) 431-8815, (954) 920-4268
www.star-center.com,

American Maritime Officers Safety and
Education Plan-School of Marine
Engineering and Navigation
I Maritime Plaza,
Toledo, OH 43604
800-221-9395
www.star-center.com

American Radio Association-Technology
Institute for Maritime Electronics
(ARA-TIME)
360 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor,
New York, NY 10001
212-594-3600
[email: arany@mindspring.com](mailto:arany@mindspring.com)

Other Non-Profit Schools

Seamen's Church Institute
Center for Maritime Education
241 Water Street New York, NY 10038
212-233-2242
Internet: seamenschurch.com

IBU Job Corps Seamanship Training
Program
Tongue Point Job Corps Center,
Astoria, OR 97103
503-325-8475
[email: ibusm@pacifier.com](mailto:ibusm@pacifier.com)

Kingsborough Community College
Office of Marine Education
2001 Oriental Boulevard
Brooklyn, NY 11235
718-368-5525
[email: jmuzio@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:jmuzio@kbcc.cuny.edu)

Seattle Central Community College
Seattle Maritime Academy
4455 Shilshole Ave. NW
Seattle, WA 98107-4645
206-782-2647

Specialized Safety Courses

The U.S. Coast Guard and MARAD
jointly approve courses in marine fire
fighting, collision avoidance navigation,
radar, vessel stability, and emergency

medical care. For information, contact the following:

U.S. Coast Guard
National Maritime Center
4200 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 630
Arlington, VA 22203-1804
202-493-1000

or

Maritime Administration
MAR-250, Room 7302
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590
202-366-5755

MARAD Marine Fire Fighting

Maritime Administration offices provide information on local practical marine fire fighting courses that are approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. In addition the agency advertises availability of its firefighting courses located in Toledo, Ohio, on the Department of Transportation's "Do It Yourself" (DIY) website, which is on the web at: www.diy.dot.gov/. For direct information, contact the following:

Maritime Administration
North Atlantic Region Fire Training
Registrar
1 Bowling Green, Room 418
New York, NY 10004-1415
212-668-3330

Maritime Administration
MARAD/MSC Fire School
1029 Highway 33 East
Freehold, NJ 07728
732-938-5190

Maritime Administration
Great Lakes Region Fire Training Center
2600 Eber Road
Swanton, OH 43558
419-259-6362

Maritime Administration
Western Region Fire Training (Referrals)
201 Mission Street, Suite 2200
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-744-3125

Ship Operations Cooperative Program (SOCP)

SOCP is a unique government/industry program that promotes safe and efficient ship operations and has developed several training videos for industry and training school use. Further information on mariner recruitment, training videos and other training projects are described on the SOCP website at www.socp.org. Information is also available at MARAD by calling 202-366-4125.

The Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program (GAM)

Attn:DRP-2
U.S. Department of Transportation
Washington, DC 20590-0001
<http://education.dot.gov> or
[email: garrett.morgan@rspa.dot.gov](mailto:garrett.morgan@rspa.dot.gov)

The Garrett A. Morgan Program is a national education initiative of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Particulars on the program are as follows:

Who - Garrett Morgan (1877-1963) was an African-American inventor who was born in Kentucky and lived his adult life in Cleveland, Ohio. One of his most notable inventions was the traffic signal, a device which provided the foundation for managing traffic flows in the 20th century. This technology has been electrified, then computerized, but not replaced because the science of its use was both revolutionary and ahead of its time.

What — The Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program has three goals:

- ◆ To build a bridge between America's youth and the transportation community;
- ◆ To support the development of improved educational technology that provides better ways for people to acquire new skills; and
- ◆ To ensure that America's transportation work force for the 21st century is technologically literate and internationally competitive.

Why — Much of the seasoned transportation work force is retiring. The demand for both traditional and new skills is expanding. The nation's need for technologically literate transportation workers continues to grow.

How — The Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program serves as a catalyst to promote transportation careers and education at all levels. In 2000, the Morgan Program reached over 1 million students. The program consists of four components:

1. Math, Science, and Technology Literacy Challenge (K-12)
2. Community College Partnership
3. Undergraduate and Graduate Opportunities
4. Life-long Learning

(Using the web address on the previous page, click on any of these four components for details.)

Visit us at our Maritime Administration website location for more information on the agency or on the maritime industry:

<http://www.marad.dot.gov>

ALSO

Visit the U.S. Coast Guard website for licensing and documentation information:

<http://www.uscg.mil/STCW/m-pers.htm>