

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
U.S. Department of Transportation
Center of Excellence (CoE) for Domestic Workforce Training and Education

Calhoon MEBA Engineering School – Easton, Maryland

The Secretary of Transportation designates the Calhoon MEBA Engineering School (CMES) as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education for its high-density technical instruction and STCW officer advancement tracks. Established in 1966 as the nation's first joint labor-management maritime training trust, CMES operates under dual Det Norske Veritas (DNV) Quality Management certifications as a Maritime Training Centre and Maritime Simulator Centre to credential licensed engineering and deck officers across the U.S. merchant fleet.

Operational Footprint & Assets

Integrates simulation tools, heavy-engineering laboratories, and specialized tactical facilities to deliver advanced continuing education for actively sailing merchant mariners and government operators.

- **Comprehensive Approvals:** Maintains 34 U.S. Coast Guard National Maritime Center course approvals—including complete Diesel, Gas Turbine, and Steam propulsion crossover endorsements—and 7 Military Sealift Command (MSC) warrants.]
- **Advanced Simulator Infrastructure:** Operates DNV-certified Maritime Simulator Centre labs featuring full ship bridge trainers, slow-speed diesel simulators, and computer-based cargo handling units.
- **Heavy Technical Labs:** Features live 12.47 kV power system suites for High Voltage Safety, seven operational Thermo King and Carrier refrigerated container units, an AWS SENSE certified welding facility, and an EPA-approved Section 608 technician testing site.

Workforce & Regional Impact

Serves as a premier national upskilling hub, directly advancing the technical readiness of U.S. merchant officers, military sealift personnel, and regional fleets.

- **High-Volume Throughput:** Trained 711 USCG-approved course graduates in 2024, demonstrating consistent, high-capacity pipeline growth.
- **Fleet Partnerships:** Executes contracted professional development for commercial operators including Maersk Line Limited, Matson navigation, Alaska Tanker Company, Chevron, Washington State Ferries, and Weeks Marine.
- **Government & Defense Support:** Delivers specialized tactical, CBRN, and damage control instruction for Military Sealift Command (MSC), NAVSEA, Naval Surface Warfare Center Philadelphia, NOAA, and USCG personnel.

Strategic Outlook

As propulsion technologies transition to alternative fuels and green-energy standards, CMES

continuously adapts its STCW-aligned curriculum. By integrating Combined IGF Code (LNG fuel) operations, advanced industrial automation (PLCs/MEECE), and live high-voltage power management, the school reinforces national defense readiness and ensures U.S. mariners are prepared to command complex commercial and strategic sealift assets globally.