

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

Hampton Roads Maritime Industries Education Alliance – Norfolk, Virginia

The Secretary of Transportation designates the Hampton Roads Maritime Industries Education Alliance (HRMIEA), a strategic alliance between Maritime Institute (MI) and Old Dominion University (ODU), as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE). Operating in Norfolk, Virginia, in the heart of the world's largest naval complex, HRMIEA bridges MI's high-volume commercial mariner credentialing and "afloat" training with ODU's R1 doctoral research, engineering technology, and "ashore" maritime supply chain degree pathways.

Operational Footprint & Assets

Integrates private commercial mariner training facilities with university research infrastructure across afloat, ashore, and offshore energy domains:

- **Maritime Institute (Afloat Footprint):** Delivers 95 USCG-approved courses, 50 non-certificated tracks, and specialized Navy courses using full-mission bridge/engine simulators, engine room training rigs, and USCG proctoring labs.
- **Mariner & Small Vessel Boot Camps:** Operates an 8-week Mariner Boot Camp (135 class hrs. + 120 sea-time internship hrs.) issuing six USCG/STCW credentials, TWIC, and Merchant Mariner Credentials (MMC), alongside a 5-week ABYC Small Vessel Repair and Maintenance Boot Camp.
- **Mid-Atlantic Wind Training Alliance:** Partnered with Centura College and New College Institute to form Virginia's first dedicated offshore wind alliance, delivering Global Wind Organization (GWO) basic safety and technical training at MI.
- **Old Dominion University Ashore & Research Footprint:** R1 doctoral research university with over 23,000 students. Houses the SCHEV-approved School of Supply Chain, Logistics, and Maritime Operations, Frank Batten College of Engineering & Technology (ABET-accredited), and Virginia's Modeling, Analysis, and Simulation Center (VMASC).
- **Ashore Academic Degree Tracks:** Grants B.S., M.S., and Graduate Certificates in Mechanical Engineering Technology (Marine & Nuclear Systems concentrations), Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering, Coastal Engineering (CECP), and Maritime & Supply Chain Management.

Certification Output & Credentialing Performance

- **High-Volume USCG Credentialing:** Maritime Institute's Norfolk facility delivers approximately 4,000 USCG course completion certificates annually, with student enrollment projected to exceed 6,000 annually.
- **Boot Camp Throughput & Placement:** Over 250 students have completed the Mariner Boot Camp. WIOA-funded participants through the Hampton Roads Workforce Council (HRWC) achieve a 100% completion rate and an 86% maritime job placement rate.
- **ODU Degree Conferred Output:** ODU confers over 700 degrees annually across maritime-aligned engineering, ocean science, cybersecurity, and supply chain disciplines.

Workforce, STEM & Regional Outreach

Drives workforce development across commercial, defense, and K-12 pipelines.

- **Defense & Shipbuilding Pipelines:** Over 1,000 ODU alumni work at Newport News Shipbuilding. VMASC's Digital Ship unit has secured \$10.5M+ in awards for digital shipbuilding transformation, , while the *Maritime Industrial Base Ecosystem (MIBE)* has secured \$6.3M+ to build defense fleet resilience.
- **Cybersecurity & Offshore Energy Research:** ODU hosts a \$1 million DOE Cybersecurity Center for Offshore Wind Energy supporting Dominion Energy's 176-turbine Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project.
- **State Workforce Partnerships:** Maintains formal agreements with HRWC and Virginia Career Works for WIOA-funded Out-of-School Youth and Adult/Dislocated Worker mariner training.
- **K-12 & Youth STEM Pipelines:** Reaches over 15,000 students and educators through VMASC's *Digital Ship*, *STEM Ahoy!*, *Coastal Coders*, girls' maritime career initiatives, and regional high school CTE course redesigns (Hampton, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Newport News).

Strategic Outlook

By uniting high-volume USCG mariner licensing and GWO wind technician certifications with naval architecture, coastal engineering, and maritime cybersecurity research, HRMIEA delivers a comprehensive end-to-end talent pipeline. Positioned alongside major military commands and shipyards, the Alliance reinforces national security, port supply chain resilience, and offshore energy workforce readiness across the Mid-Atlantic.