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, shipyard trades, and afloat training with ODU's R1 doctoral research, advanced engineering technology, and ashore maritime supply chain degree pathways to anchor education, workforce training, and research for the entire maritime enterprise.

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

• **Maritime Institute Afloat & Trades Footprint:** Delivers 85 USCG-approved courses, over 50 non-certificated classes, and 12 U.S. Navy-aligned programs utilizing full-mission bridge and engine simulators, electrical, engine, HVAC, and machine shop laboratories, and live-firefighting facilities.
• **Fast-Track Mariner, Shipyard & Small Vessel Boot Camps:** Operates an accelerated 4-week Mariner Boot Camp (alongside an 8-week extended format) conferring five USCG/STCW endorsements, Transportation Worker Identification Card (TWIC), and Merchant Mariner Credentials (MMC); an intensive 5-week shipyard boot camp; a 5-week ABYC Small Vessel Repair and Maintenance Boot Camp; and a specialized secondary mariner boot camp embedded in a Washington State high school program.
• **Mid-Atlantic Wind Training Alliance:** Collaborates with regional partners to support Virginia's offshore wind workforce development, delivering Global Wind Organization (GWO) basic safety and technical training at Maritime Institute facilities.

• **Old Dominion University Ashore & Research Footprint:** R1 doctoral research university anchoring advanced defense engineering, digital shipbuilding, and shoreside maritime initiatives. Operates the ODU National Security Institute (ODU-NSI), Virginia's Modeling, Analysis, and Simulation Center (VMASC), the Frank Batten College of Engineering & Technology (ABET-accredited), and the state-approved School of Supply Chain, Logistics, and Maritime Operations.
• **ODU-NSI Advanced Research Centers & Autonomous Test Facilities:** Coordinates nine specialized research centers—including VMASC, the Virginia Digital Maritime Center (VDMC), the Institute for Autonomous and Connected Systems (IACS), and the Maritime, Ports & Logistics Institute (MPLI), supplemented by the waterfront Maritime Autonomous Systems Test Site (MASTS) at Willoughby Spit and a dedicated Digital Engineering and AI Lab established with Valkyrie Enterprises.
• **Ashore Academic Degree Tracks:** Confers specialized undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs:

- ***Supply Chain & Port Logistics:*** B.S. and M.S. degrees in Maritime & Supply Chain Management and Trade, Port, and Logistics Management.
- ***Engineering Disciplines:*** Maritime-applicable undergraduate and graduate programs in Mechanical, Civil Coastal, and Electrical Engineering.
- ***Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering:*** B.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology with concentrations in Marine Systems and Nuclear Systems, a Minor in Marine Engineering, and Graduate Certificates in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering.

Workforce & Regional Impact
Drives comprehensive maritime workforce development across commercial, naval defense, and secondary school pipelines:

• **High-Volume USCG Credentialing: USCG Credentialing:** Maritime Institute's Norfolk facility delivers approximately 4,000 USCG course completion certificates annually, with total annual student registrations projected to exceed 6,000 mariners.
• **Boot Camp Throughput & Placement:** Delivered Mariner Boot Camp training to over 570 participants since 2016. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) participants sponsored by the Hampton Roads Workforce Council (HRWC) achieve a 100% program completion rate and an 86% direct industry employment placement rate.
• **Shipyard Trades & NAVSEA Upskilling Pathways:** Maritime Institute delivers a 5-week aluminum welding curriculum conferring official NAVSEA credentials, alongside specialized courses in marine electricity, machining, and marine HVAC.
• **ODU Degree Conferred Output:** ODU confers more than 1,000 maritime-aligned degrees and graduate certificates annually across civil, coastal, electrical, and mechanical engineering; cybersecurity; data science; and maritime supply chain and logistics.
• **Defense & Shipbuilding Pipelines:** ODU-NSI centers have secured over $18M+ in research awards for digital shipbuilding transformation and fleet resilience, sustaining a critical talent pipeline that includes over 1,000 ODU alumni employed at Newport News Shipbuilding.
• **State Workforce Partnerships& Trades Curriculum Expansion:** Maintains formal agreements with HRWC and Virginia Career Works for WIOA-funded training. ODU-NSI centers have engaged over 59,200 individuals, developed 33 maritime curricula/workshops, and created Level 2/3 Marine Trades Training courses in Welding, Structural Fitting, Marine Electricity, and Coatings for regional community colleges**.**
• **Cybersecurity & Offshore Energy Research:** Houses a $1M Department of Energy grant-funded Cybersecurity Center for Offshore Wind Energy supporting digital grid resilience.
• **K-12 & Youth STEM Pipelines:** Reaches over 15,000 students and educators through ODU-NSI centers' Digital Ship Challenge, STEM Ahoy!, Coastal Coders, girls' maritime career initiatives, and regional high school CTE course redesigns across Hampton, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Newport News.

Strategic Outlook

By uniting Maritime Institute's high-volume USCG mariner credentialing, shipyard trades, and GWO wind technician certifications with Old Dominion University's R1 doctoral research, engineering technology, autonomous systems, and shoreside supply chain education, HRMIEA delivers a comprehensive, end-to-end talent pipeline. Positioned alongside major military

commands and shipyards in Hampton Roads, the Alliance reinforces national security, port supply chain resilience, and maritime workforce readiness across the Mid-Atlantic.