

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

**Hampton Roads Maritime Industries Education Alliance –
Maritime Institute – Norfolk, VA**

The Secretary of Transportation designates the Hampton Roads Maritime Industries Education Alliance, incorporating the Maritime Institute (MI), as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE). Operating as the nation's largest private mariner training provider, the Maritime Institute serves as a primary operational engine supplying credentialed deck officers, engine room staff, and offshore wind technicians across Atlantic and domestic trade corridors.

Operational Footprint & Assets

- **Advanced Simulation & Lab Complex:** Operates a primary USCG-approved campus, equipped with full-mission bridge simulators, engine room simulation suites, electrical labs, and training wheelhouses.
- **Comprehensive Afloat Credentialing Tracks:** Delivers 95 USCG-approved courses, over 50 non-certificated classes, and 12 U.S. Navy-aligned programs spanning Master/Mate 100/200/1600 Ton, Chief Mate, Able Seaman, QMED, DDE, and STCW basic/advanced safety revalidations.
- **Mid-Atlantic Wind Training Alliance:** Partnered with Centura College and New College Institute to launch Virginia's first dedicated Global Wind Organization (GWO) certified offshore wind technician training center.
- **Fast-Track Entry-Level Mariner Boot Camps:** Features an intensive 8-week (135 classroom hours + 120 internship hours) Mariner Boot Camp conferring six USCG/STCW certificates, TWIC, and Merchant Mariner Credentials (MMC).

Workforce & Regional Impact

- **Substantial Student Volume:** Projected course registrations exceed 6,000 students annually across commercial shipping, military sealift, tug and barge, and passenger vessel sectors.
- **WIOA & High-Placement Throughput:** Delivered Mariner Boot Camp training to over 250 entry-level mariners since 2016. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) participants sponsored by the Hampton Roads Workforce Council achieved a 100% completion rate and an 86% direct industry employment rate.
- **Incumbent Advancement Pathways:** Offers 7 Deck and 12 Engineering Career Advancement Program (CAP/ECAP) pathways providing structured 160-to-320-hour licensing preparation for mariners upgrading credentials up to Unlimited Tonnage Master and Chief Engineer.
- **Regional Industry Integration:** Active member of the Virginia Maritime Association (VMA), Virginia Ship Repair Association (VSRA), and Ship Operations Cooperative Program (SOCP).

Strategic Outlook

Co-located in the world's largest naval homeport and neighboring the 176-turbine Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project, Maritime Institute delivers rapid-response mariner credentialing and workforce upskilling. Its expansion into GWO wind technician standards and small vessel repair boot camps ensures long-term operational readiness for commercial, military, and green energy fleet operations.