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 personnel, and rated shipyard technicians across Atlantic and domestic trade corridors.

Operational Footprint & Assets

• **Advanced Simulation & Applied Technical Complex:** Operates a primary USCG-approved training campus equipped with full-mission bridge simulators, engine room simulation suites, specialized electrical, engine, HVAC, and machine shop laboratories, and live-firefighting training facilities.
• **Comprehensive Afloat Credentialing Suite:** Delivers 85 USCG-approved courses, over 50 non-certificated professional development classes, and 12 U.S. Navy-aligned programs spanning Master/Mate 100/200/1600 Ton, Chief Mate, Able Seaman, QMED, Designated Duty Engineer (DDE), and STCW basic and advanced safety revalidations.
• **Fast-Track Entry-Level Boot Camps:** Operates intensive entry-level pipelines including a 4-week Mariner Boot Camp conferring five USCG/STCW endorsements, Transportation Worker Identification Card (TWIC), and the Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC); a 5-week Shipyard Bootcamp; a 5-week ABYC Small Vessel Repair and Maintenance Boot Camp; and a specialized Mariner Bootcamp embedded within a Washington State secondary school program.
• **Mid-Atlantic Wind Training Alliance:** Collaborates with Centura College and New College Institute to operate Virginia's first dedicated Global Wind Organization (GWO) certified offshore wind technician training center.

Workforce & Regional Impact

• **Substantial Annual Student Volume:** Projected course registrations exceed 6,000 students annually across commercial shipping, military sealift, tug and barge, passenger vessel, and defense industrial sectors.
• **WIOA & High-Placement Mariner Throughput:** 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:** Delivers an intensive 5-week aluminum welding program that awards NAVSEA qualifications, alongside specialized industrial courses in marine electricity, precision machining, and marine HVAC systems.
• **Incumbent Officer Advancement Tracks:** Maintains 7 Deck and 12 Engineering Career

Advancement Program (CAP/ECAP) pathways providing structured 160-to-320-hour licensing curricula for mariners advancing credentials up to Unlimited Tonnage Master and Chief Engineer.
• **Regional & National Industry Governance:** Active participating member of the Virginia Maritime Association (VMA), Virginia Ship Repair Association (VSRA), and the national Ship Operations Cooperative Program (SOCP).

Strategic Outlook

Co-located within the world's largest naval homeport, Maritime Institute delivers rapid-response mariner credentialing, military-to-mariner transition tracks, and critical defense trade upskilling. Its strategic expansion into NAVSEA aluminum welding, shipyard trade boot camps, GWO wind technician standards, and small vessel maintenance ensures continuous operational readiness for commercial shipping fleets, military sealift surge mobilizations, and emerging green energy maritime operations.