

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

**Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies –
Linthicum Heights, Maryland & Seattle, Washington**

The Secretary of Transportation redesignates the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS) as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE) for its leadership in advanced full-mission simulation, mariner license advancement, and USDOL-registered apprenticeships. Operating campuses in Linthicum Heights, MD (near BWI Airport) and Seattle, WA, MITAGS functions as a primary non-profit continuing education and training engine for civilian and military mariners nationwide.

Operational Footprint & Assets

MITAGS maintains coast-to-coast training infrastructure equipped with full-mission simulation suites, live fire grounds, and maritime conference facilities.

- **East Coast Campus (Linthicum Heights, MD):** 40-acre, 300,000 sq ft complex featuring 55 meeting rooms, a 248-seat auditorium, 232 guest rooms, two 360° Transas full-mission ship handling simulators integrated with bridge tug simulators, an 8-ship radar/ARPA/ECDIS simulator, a liquid natural gas (LNG) cryogenic control simulator, a vessel traffic system (VTS) lab, and an emergency medical lab.
- **West Coast Campus (Seattle, WA):** 20 minutes from SEA-TAC Airport, featuring a 240° DNV Class A full-mission bridge simulator, two 300° tugboat simulators, a 6-ship radar/ARPA lab, two ECDIS labs, a GMDSS communications lab, and the 125-foot *M/V Fire Dragon* live fire/damage control mock-up.
- **Maritime Apprenticeship Program (MAP):** Nationally registered USDOL apprenticeship program offering zero-to-hero pathways to a USCG deck officer's license in as little as 24 months, including Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch (OICNW) and Officer in Charge of an Engineering Watch (OICEW) tracks.
- **USCG Course Throughput:** Enrolled 2,171 students in 2022, 2,479 in 2023, and 2,475 through October 2024 across USCG-approved courses.
- **Quality Certifications:** Internationally certified as a Maritime Training & Simulation Centre by Det Norske Veritas (DNV-GL) under standard DNV-ST-0029.

Workforce & Regional Impact

MITAGS directly supports commercial vessel operators, pilot associations, military commands, and secondary STEM initiatives.

- **Mariners for America Conference:** Hosted the inaugural national *Mariners for America Conference* at the East Campus, convening vessel operators, labor unions, academies, and regulators to address national mariner shortages, sealift readiness, and the White House Maritime Action Plan.
- **Industry Partnerships:** Partnered with major commercial carriers and tug fleets including

Washington State Ferries, Crowley Marine Services, Foss Maritime, Sause Bros., Dunlap Towing, Western Towboat, Centerline Logistics, American Seafoods, and NOAA.

- **K-12 & Youth STEM Outreach:** Conducts interactive facility and simulator tours for regional middle and high schools, including Dulaney, North County, Woodlawn, and Annapolis High School (NJROTC). Hosts one day of Engineers Week for the Engineering Society of Baltimore, bringing up to 80 students on campus for hands-on simulator, firefighting, and medical sessions alongside Sail Baltimore.

- **Specialized Mariner Assessments:** Developed the proprietary Navigational Skills Assessment Program (NSAP®) utilizing full-mission simulation to assess watchkeeping competency and risk mitigation for ship operators and pilot organizations.

Strategic Outlook

Addressing critical national shortages of credentialed deck and engineering officers, MITAGS continues expanding its simulation-based curriculum, blended online learning options, and hybrid distance learning modules. By aligning its Maritime Apprenticeship Programs with national sealift readiness goals and expanding youth career pathways, MITAGS maintains an adaptable, world-class workforce pipeline for U.S. flag commercial shipping, regional towing, and national defense operations.