

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

**Minnesota State Domestic Maritime Workforce Consortium –
Minnesota State College Southeast (MSCS) – Winona & Red Wing, MN**

The Secretary of Transportation designates the Minnesota State Domestic Maritime Workforce Consortium (MSDMWC), incorporating Minnesota State College Southeast (MSCS), as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE) for its riverport technical education, marine trade credentials, and regional economic partnerships. Operating dual campuses in Winona and Red Wing along the Upper Mississippi River, MSCS provides essential mechanical, welding, and transportation training for inland waterway commerce.

Operational Footprint & Assets

- **Dual Riverport Campus Infrastructure:** Operates technical training campuses in Winona and Red Wing, MN—both primary hubs for Mississippi River barges, tugboats, and commercial watercraft.
- **Comprehensive Technical Program Portfolio:** Offers 22 maritime-related credit and non-credit programs, including Welding Technology, Auto Body/Collision (AAS/Diploma), Industrial Maintenance, Mechatronics, CDL Truck Driving, Machining, and Construction Technology.
- **Port Authority & Army Corps Partnerships:** Collaborates directly with the Port Authority of Winona, Red Wing Port Authority, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers across southeastern Minnesota and southwestern Wisconsin.
- **Commercial Marine Industry Links:** Maintains active workforce connections with regional marine enterprises including River Valley Power & Sport, American Cruise Lines, World Fuel Services, and local shipyard contractors.

Workforce & Regional Impact

- **Strong Career Placement Rates:** Demonstrates near 100% job placement across key technical majors (Welding Tech: 100%; Truck Driving: 100%; Construction Tech: 100%).
- **High Employer-Related Employment Rates:** State tracking shows 93.2% to 95.9% of graduates available for work are employed in fields directly related to their major.
- **Concurrent High School Enrollment:** Operates "Connect to College" concurrent enrollment partnerships across 12 regional high school districts, expanding secondary CTE and STEM career pathways.
- **Interstate Regional Reach:** Serves students and employers across southeastern Minnesota, western Wisconsin (La Crosse), and northern Iowa.

Strategic Outlook

Situated along major commercial river transportation routes, Minnesota State College Southeast

provides essential shoreside support for Mississippi River barge and towboat fleets. Its high-placement trade programs in structural welding, heavy equipment mechanics, and logistics ensure local maritime industries maintain a steady supply of qualified technicians.