

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
U.S. Department of Transportation

Center of Excellence (CoE) for Domestic Workforce Training and Education

Maritime Institute – Everett, Washington and San Diego, California

The Secretary of Transportation designates the Maritime Institute as a 2026 Center of Excellence for its West Coast training network, which coordinates entry-level recruitment, specialized fleet upgrades, and emergency surge training. Operating campuses in San Diego, California, and Everett, Washington, the Institute delivers a wide range of U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)-approved certifications. The center serves as a vital pipeline for the industry, training new talent and upgrading the skills of working mariners to support both commercial shipping and national defense.

Operational Footprint & Assets

The Institute ensures training consistency across major coastal hubs via standardized curriculum matrices, shared instructors, and a centralized Quality Safety System Manual.

- **Core Curricula:** Features 86 USCG-approved courses and 8 U.S. Navy modules, covering Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Basic Training, Qualified Member of the Engine Department, engineering, electronic navigation, and advanced firefighting.
- **Alternative Fuel Specialization:** One of only two national providers delivering certified training for Basic/Advanced IGF Code (LNG) operations and IECEX CoPC explosive atmosphere safety.
- **Shoreside Infrastructure:** Offers hands-on technical training in aluminum welding, marine diesel diagnostics, and HVAC, alongside a 5-week Shipyard BootCamp.

Workforce & Regional Impact

The Institute drives labor compliance and economic growth across West Coast ports through structured workforce alliances.

- **Labor Alliances:** Provides targeted training for Washington State Ferries (2,100 mariners), the Marine Firemen's Union, and the Sailors' Union of the Pacific.
- **Veteran & Youth Pathways:** As a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business staffed by 70 percent veteran instructors, it runs Merchant Marine-Seas military transition tracks and 540-hour high school CTE programs.
- **Proven Scale:** Conducts over 16,000 annual training sessions globally, maintaining a 98.9 percent completion rate within its expanding Pacific Northwest division.

Strategic Outlook

The Institute is standardizing its Shipyard Boot Camp for multi-site deployment and expanding hybrid officer credentials. In a national crisis, its mobilization architecture can double capacity to 32,000 training sessions within 30 days using existing facilities. By balancing clean-energy propulsion training with accelerated entry-level boot camps, the Institute ensures fleet readiness and national sealift continuity.