

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
U.S. Department of Transportation

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

Northeast Maritime Institute – Fairhaven, Massachusetts

The Secretary of Transportation designates the Northeast Maritime Institute (NMI) as a 2026 Center of Excellence for its flexible e-learning platform and high-capacity training programs. Operating as a major training hub on the Atlantic coast, NMI offers a two-year associate degree program alongside remote learning options designed to expedite mariner training and address critical crew shortages quickly during national emergencies.

Operational Footprint & Assets

NMI's integrated instructional framework merges intensive, cohort-style classroom lecture with live on-water fleet assets and scalable e-learning systems.

- **Accelerated Degree Infrastructure:** Conducts a 78-credit-hour Associate of Applied Science in Nautical Science curriculum tied to mandatory, practical sea service externships.
- **The NEMO Platform:** Deploys an advanced online learning node enabling students and working mariners to complete training and certification remotely.
- **High-Tier Simulation Tools:** Employs full bridge simulator labs and specialized RADAR/ARPA suites to train candidates in advanced ship handling and tactical navigation.

Workforce & Regional Impact

NMI serves as a primary regional employment engine, placing local talent directly into active U.S. shipboard roles.

- **Placement & Retention:** Sustains a 94 percent graduation rate, an 89–100 percent job placement rate, and over an 80 percent long-term career retention rate.
- **Comprehensive Licensing:** Qualifies graduates for immediate Federal credentials, including Master 100 Ton, Mate 200 Ton, Able Seaman, and Tankerman-PIC endorsements.
- **Sector Placement:** Directs personnel into commercial tugboat fleets, passenger ferries, and ocean cargo lines via established industry partnerships.

Strategic Outlook

NMI is streamlining its accelerated training and online programs to strengthen national maritime readiness. Through direct pathways into the U.S. Coast Guard and continuous program updates, the Institute serves as a flexible regional hub. In a national emergency, NMI can rapidly train and deploy certified personnel to keep domestic ships moving and secure our maritime logistics networks.