

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

**Seafarers Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship – Piney Point, Maryland**

The Maritime Administration designates the Seafarers Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship (SHLSS) as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE). Situated on a 60-acre waterfront campus on St. George's Creek in Piney Point, Maryland, SHLSS serves as the primary Seafarers International Union (SIU) joint labor-management training facility, offering USCG-accredited coursework, tuition-free apprenticeships, and guaranteed job placement for U.S. Merchant Mariners.

**Operational Footprint & Assets**

Delivers comprehensive, tuition-free instruction for entry-level apprentices and experienced mariners across deck, engine, and steward departments.

- **Unlicensed Apprentice (UA) Program:** Offers an 18-month, 5-phase registered apprenticeship combining classroom theory, simulator training, and guaranteed sea time on SIU-contracted commercial vessels.
- **Advanced Simulation & Waterfront Facilities:** Features a 360-degree 4K full-mission bridge simulator, three auxiliary bridges, two tug bridges, a full-mission engine room simulator, and crane control simulators. Operates dedicated training vessels for underway navigation and seamanship.
- **Joseph Sacco Firefighting & Safety School:** Houses a three-level burn ship, full-scale helicopter model, 360-degree damage control rupture lab, water survival pool, and small arms firing range.
- **Degree & Certification Pathways:** Offers at least 60 USCG-accredited courses. Partners with the College of Southern Maryland to confer an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Maritime Operations Technology.

**Workforce & Regional Impact**

Serves as a major national supply pipeline for unlicensed personnel across the U.S. commercial fleet and Military Sealift Command (MSC).

- **Guaranteed Employment Placement:** 100% of apprentices completing the UA program are guaranteed entry-level job placements as Able Seafarer-Deck, Fireman/Oiler/Watertender (FOWT), or Certified Chief Cook.
- **Historical & Annual Volume:** Has trained over 17,000 entry-level apprentices and 135,000 upgrading mariners since opening in 1967.
- **Emergency Response & First Responder Support:** Provides specialized maritime firefighting, damage control, and firearms qualification for external entities, including MITAGS, local municipal fire departments, Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, the USCG, FBI, and Secret Service.
- **Pre-Apprenticeship & Workforce Pathways:** Partners with U.S. Job Corps (San Diego and Astoria), the Marimed Foundation in Hawaii, the Seattle Chefs-for-Ships program, and the DoD SkillBridge program for transitioning military veterans.

**Strategic Outlook**

Supported by joint union-employer trust funding and continuous curriculum updates for advanced

container refrigeration, dual-fuel LNG, and automated engine systems, SHLSS maintains an essential role in U.S. maritime readiness. By providing stackable USCG credentials and direct pathways from entry-level positions to licensed shipboard officers, the Seafarers Harry Lundeborg School of Seamanship ensures a highly trained, resilient domestic mariner workforce for commercial commerce and national defense.