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

Tidewater Community College –
Chesapeake, Virginia

The Secretary of Transportation redesignates Tidewater Community College (TCC), incorporating the Chesapeake Campus node, as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE). The Chesapeake Campus serves as TCC's primary hub for marine electrical engineering, electrical technology, precision machining, precision machining, and transfer-level engineering disciplines supporting the Hampton Roads defense industrial base and regional port infrastructure.

Operational Footprint & Assets

• **Marine Electrical & Technology Facility:** Allocates approximately 15,000 square feet of dedicated classrooms and instructional laboratories equipped for marine electrical systems, motor controls, transformer circuits, and AC/DC power distribution.
• **Precision Machining & Tooling Complex:** Operates an 8,000-square-foot machining laboratory, classroom, and tooling facility housing manual lathe and mill workstations.
• **Transfer Engineering Infrastructure:** Delivers the Associate of Science (A.S.) in Engineering degree pathway, maintaining dedicated physical science and calculus-based engineering laboratories.
• **National Credential Alignment:** Curricula align directly with National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) industry certifications and ABYC Marine League standards.

Workforce & Regional Impact

• **Specialized Program Enrollment:** Enrolled 29 students in the Marine Electrical CSC, 51 in the Inside Machinist CSC, and 522 in the transfer Engineering A.S. degree during the 2025-2026 academic year.
• **Industrial Employer Sourcing:** Feeds qualified inside machinists, marine electricians, and automation technicians directly into regional maritime repair yards, manufacturing firms, and port facilities.
• **Secondary Pre-Apprenticeship Integration:** Participates in regional high school CTE dual-enrollment pathways, historically enrolling over 25 Chesapeake secondary students annually in pre-apprenticeship electrical, machining, and mechatronics tracks.
• **Military & Veteran Pipeline:** Serves military-affiliated students through TCC's Center for Military and Veterans Education, converting naval mechanical and electrical service experience into college credit.

Strategic Outlook

The Chesapeake Campus provides essential advanced technical capacity for the Mid-Atlantic maritime industrial corridor, supplying precision machinists and marine electricians needed for complex shipboard system overhaul and naval ship conversion. Its engineering transfer pipeline ensures long-term technical talent for regional maritime infrastructure and port logistics expansion.