

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

**Tidewater Community College –
Chesapeake, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach & Norfolk, Virginia**

The Secretary of Transportation redesignates Tidewater Community College (TCC) as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE) for its regional leadership in skilled trades, USCG-approved mariner licensing, and shipyard apprenticeship partnerships across the Hampton Roads defense industrial base. Operating across four primary campus nodes and regional training facilities, TCC serves as the primary technical educational provider supporting the nation's largest naval base and fifth-largest port complex.

Multi-Campus Network & Facilities

TCC delivers comprehensive technical degree tracks, USCG-approved mariner courses, and dedicated skilled trades facilities disaggregated across four institutional nodes:

- **Chesapeake Node (Marine Electrical & Precision Machining):** Houses a 15,000 sq. ft. Marine Electrical complex, an 8,000 sq. ft. NIMS-aligned machining laboratory, and the A.S. Engineering transfer pathway
- **Portsmouth Node & Skilled Trades Academy (Skilled Trades & Mariner Licensing):** Functions as the academic lead for maritime pathways, operating the 32,000 sq. ft. Skilled Trades Academy (25 welding booths, 10 coatings modules, 5 pipefitting modules), 40 main campus welding booths, an AWS Accredited Test Facility, and USCG afloat licensing suite.
- **Virginia Beach Node (Propulsion Technology & Intermodal Logistics):** ABYC-accredited Marine League School operating marine diesel/gasoline diagnostic bays, CAD labs, and a Class A CDL commercial driver training range.
- **Norfolk Node & Regional Network (Maritime Logistics & Defense Partnerships):** Executive lead hosting the Management (Maritime Logistics) program, U.S. Naval Community College (USNCC) degree hub, and Suffolk Tri-Cities NNS Engineering Center.

Comprehensive Afloat & Ashore Career Credentials

- **Afloat Credentials:** USCG OUPV Six-Pack (TIDECC-340), Master 100 Ton (TIDECC-530), Auxiliary Sail, Basic Fire Fighting, First Aid/CPR, PSSR, PST, and VPDSO endorsements.
- **Ashore & Trade Credentials:** A.A.S. degrees in Maritime Technologies (10 specializations) and Management (Maritime Logistics); 10 stackable Career Studies Certificates (CSCs); AWS structural code and ABYC certifications.

Workforce & Regional Impact

- **USCG OUPV Credentialing Performance:** Graduated 53 individual mariners through the USCG Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessels (OUPV) course between 2021 and 2024).
- **Shipyard Apprenticeships & Student Volume:** Enrolls ~950 registered apprentices and maritime students across all regional employer partners, including ~200 incoming Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) apprentices per year. Awarded 1,448 maritime-related degrees and certificates from 2018 to 2023.
- **VSRA Marine Trade Training (MTT) Output:** Delivered non-credit short-term trade training to 1,800+ workers via the VSRA sector partnership since 2017, maintaining a post-completion hire rate exceeding 96%.
- **Military & Defense Logistics Alignment:** Enrolls 5,000+ military-affiliated students annually. Selected as the primary degree-granting partner for the U.S. Naval Community College (USNCC) to award transferable A.A.S. degrees in Maritime Logistics to active-duty service members globally. Upskilled 250+ Port of Virginia employees in 2022–2023.

Strategic Outlook

Supported by state funding via the Virginia Vocational Incentive Scholarship Program (VVISP) for Shipyard Workers and federal defense logistics partnerships, TCC continues expanding its maritime training footprint. By expanding the Skilled Trades Academy to 32,000 sq. ft., embedding stackable trade credentials into regional apprenticeships, and delivering USNCC maritime logistics degree pathways, Tidewater Community College secures a vital technical workforce pipeline for naval readiness, commercial ship repair, and Mid-Atlantic port operations.