

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

**Tidewater Community College –
Virginia Beach, Virginia**

The Secretary of Transportation redesignates Tidewater Community College (TCC), incorporating the Virginia Beach Campus node, as a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE). The Virginia Beach Campus serves as TCC's primary center for small craft engine technology, marine diesel diagnostics, commercial driver logistics, and advanced engineering design.

Operational Footprint & Assets

- **ABYC-Approved Engine & Systems Laboratory:** Features specialized instructional bays for marine gasoline inboard/outboard engines, stern drives, and commercial marine diesel diagnostics.
- **Commercial Truck Driver Training Facility:** Operates a dedicated Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL) range and equipment fleet supporting port intermodal transport.
- **Engineering Design Labs:** Equipped with Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD) stations supporting 2D blueprint analysis and 3D modeling for marine mechanical and structural design.
- **ABYC Marine League School Accreditation:** Holds official American Boat and Yacht Council Marine League School accreditation for Gasoline and Diesel Engine Technology.

Workforce & Regional Impact

- **Transport Logistics & Small Craft Pipeline:** Enrolled 82 Truck Driving and 13 Marine Mechanical students in 2022–2023 while maintaining active ABYC-accredited small craft and gasoline engine tracks.
- **Intermodal Port Pipeline:** Supplies Class A CDL drivers directly to regional drayage fleets, freight corridors, and container terminals serving the Port of Virginia.
- **Small Craft Industry Placement:** Supplies certified diesel and outboard marine mechanics directly to commercial fishing fleets, boatyards, and coastal marine service companies
- **Military Separation Transition:** Works through the Center for Military and Veterans Education to transition separating naval and military personnel into commercial transportation and marine engine repair careers.

Strategic Outlook

TCC Virginia Beach strengthens regional supply chain resilience by training Class A CDL drivers and marine engine mechanics critical to port container logistics and coastal commercial vessel operations. Its ABYC-accredited facilities provide flexible capacity to support emergency engine repower and intermodal transport surges during supply chain bottlenecks.