

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
U.S. Department of Transportation

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

Webb Institute – Glen Cove, New York

The Secretary of Transportation designates the Webb Institute a 2026 Center of Excellence for providing a rigorous ship architecture curriculum for the naval architects and marine engineers designing America's domestic fleet on its Long Island Sound campus. By pairing its premier model basin with mandatory winter sea terms, the institute fast-tracks its graduates into commercial design consultancies, shipyards, and Federal defense commands.

Operational Footprint & Assets

Integrates on-campus manufacturing, hull-stress labs, and fluid diagnostic centers.

- **Robinson Model Basin:** A 93-foot towing tank with an eight-paddle wavemaker and propeller drive for hull resistance testing.
- **Propulsion Labs:** Operational steam plant, multi-engine diesel disassembly bay, and gas turbine testing block.
- **Couch Academic Center:** Connects student design studios and innovation rooms with computer labs and a three-axis computer numerical control routing carpentry shop.
- **Structural Testing:** Instron fatigue systems, environmental chambers, and a 200,000-pound capacity universal testing machine.

Workforce & Regional Impact

Guarantees immediate employment for naval architecture and marine engineering graduates.

- **Winter Internships:** Four 8-week cycles covering commercial shipyard labor (e.g., the National Steel and Shipbuilding Company (officially General Dynamics)), afloat engine watchkeeping, and design work.
- **100% Career Placement Index:** Achieves perfect post-graduation placement into industry or graduate school, with 90 percent entering active maritime tracks.
- **Direct Shipyard Personnel Support:** Channels alumni into vital segments, placing 32 percent of graduates into commercial ship design and 23 percent into naval defense commands (NAVSEA, military shipyards).
- **Full-Tuition Scholarships:** Guarantees every enrolled student a full-tuition scholarship, eliminating financial barriers to engineering education.

Strategic Outlook

Webb pairs advanced design simulation with original research to improve fleet safety and retention. Continuous computational fluid dynamics and finite element analysis software updates keep students at the cutting edge of vessel engineering. In a national crisis, Webb's U.S. Navy pipeline enables an immediate pivot to accelerated, V-12-style production loops, rapidly delivering the elite engineering teams required to sustain national defense.