



U.S. Department
of Transportation



State Maritime Academies

Maritime Administration Fact Sheet

Strategic Objective: Assure that sufficient sealift capability and intermodal transportation infrastructure exists to support vital homeland and national security interests

Vision: “A U.S. maritime workforce that furthers the economic and national security interests of the Nation.”

Mission: To educate and supply a cadre of highly trained U.S. merchant mariners.

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Maritime Education is Transportation Education!

The State Maritime Academies

The Federal Government has provided continuous assistance to State Maritime Academies (SMA) for nearly 130 years; principally by furnishing and maintaining training ships (school ships), and through direct payments to support the related shore side academic institutions. MARAD, through its immediate predecessor the United States Maritime Commission, assumed responsibility for this program in 1940. *The underlying premise for federal support of Maritime Education and Training programs has remained essentially unchanged over time - to provide highly qualified entry-level U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) unlimited licensed officers to maintain the nation's pool of skilled merchant mariners for economic stability and national security.*

The six state maritime academies are: State University of New York Maritime College in Ft. Schuyler, Bronx, NY; Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Buzzards Bay, MA; California Maritime Academy in Vallejo, CA; Maine Maritime Academy in Castine, ME; Texas A&M Maritime Academy in Galveston, TX; and the Great Lakes Maritime Academy in Traverse City, MI.