

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

The Apprenticeship Program is designed to prepare students with little or no maritime experience for a seafaring career.

The school opened in 1967 and is dedicated to providing the maritime industry with skilled, physically fit and responsible seafarers. The school emphasizes hands-on training and features state of the art equipment, instructors and facilities. The school is located in Piney Point, Maryland, approximately 60 miles from Washington, DC on over 60 acres of waterfront on a picturesque setting on the St Mary's River off the Chesapeake Bay.

The applicants will be required to fill out the application form, take reading and math evaluation tests prior to acceptance into the program. Also required is a short essay about "Why I want to be a Seafarer".

The first phase of the program is a little over 3 months (15 weeks) in length and provides the student with training required to work safely onboard any vessel.

There is no charge for tuition or room & board for Program participants. However, students are responsible for paying the costs of their Transport Canada marine medical, Passport, Transport Canada discharge book, uniforms and their initial transportation to the school facility.

The second Phase consists of 3 months at sea in which the student will be required to work in each department including deck, engine, tunnel and galley. During the time at sea the student will also complete their "SEA PROJECT" booklet.

Phase three is 7 weeks of follow-up training in Piney Point. This phase focuses on the specific skills of each department.

Once all three phases are complete the student will be placed onboard a SIU-contracted vessel for a maximum of 120 days (Phase IV) to gain further hands-on training followed by more advanced training at the school. (Phase V)

If you are serious about a career at sea, please contact the Training Coordinator about the application process. The application is available on the Seafarers International Union website at <http://www.seafarers.ca/unlicensed-apprentice-program/>

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