

Starting a Marine Career



April 4, 2024



INTERESTED IN WORKING ON THE OCEAN?

- Marine jobs are a \$30 billion Canadian Industry
- Marine shipping employs approximately 100,000 Canadians
- Transport Canada anticipates that 43% of the marine transportation workforce will retire in the next decade. It is projected that there will be a need to hire approximately 19,000 new seafarers over the next 10 years

MARINE CAREER



Canadian Coast Guard



BC Ferries



Tugboats



Cruise Ships



Pilot Boats



WCMRC

MARINE CAREER PATH



Deckhand

A general labourer on a ship, performing the day-to-day duties that keep the vessel clean and running.



Vessel Captain

The master of a ship who is responsible for the navigation and safety of the crew and ship.



Marine Engineer

An officer who operates, maintains, and repairs the machinery of a ship.

If you are interested in a career on the water on Canada's West Coast, the following courses can help get you started:

DECKHAND

A deckhand is the typical entry-level position for a career in the marine industry

- Graduate High School
- Bridge Watch Rating Program (BCIT, Camosun, and Western Maritime Institute)
 - Currently free for women and Indigenous people
- Marine Emergency Duties (MED)
- Restricted Operator Certificate – Marine (ROC-M)

Soft skills: safety-minded, communication, teamwork, problem solving, ability to follow instructions

Current starting wage with us is approximately \$78,800 per year.

VESSEL CAPTAIN

If you want to move on from a deckhand position and captain a vessel, you will need to get a certificate that is recognized by Transport Canada. Certificates are required for small commercial vessels and large deepsea vessels. The certification level required will depend on the size and function of the vessel you plan to operate.

- Small Vessel Operator Proficiency (SVOP)
- Master's Certificates (60T, 150T, 500T etc)

Soft skills: safety-minded, communication, teamwork, leadership, critical thinking, time management, conflict management, navigation skills

Current starting wage with us is approximately \$97,500 per year.

MARINE ENGINEER

Marine engineers are responsible for the maintenance and repair of a ship's machinery. This is an exciting career for those interested in the technical aspect of vessels. The marine industry is currently experiencing a severe shortage of marine engineers. It is one of the most in-demand professions in Canada.

- Small Vessel Machinery Operator (SVMO)
- Marine Engineer – 4-year program @ BCIT

Soft skills: safety-minded, communication, teamwork, critical thinking, math and physics knowledge, computer and tool knowledge

Current starting wage with us is approximately \$103,300 per year.

BENEFITS OF WORKING AT WCMRC

- Work-life balance and flexibility
- Little to no overtime
- Growth within the company
- Incentive program
- Group benefits, including dental, health, LTD, and EFAP
- Pension plan
- Service award of 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years
- Lifestyle spending account of \$200/year
- Reimbursements of seafarer's medical certificate, steel-toed boots, prescription safety glasses, passport fee, Nexus fee, ICBC endorsement fee, vaccination flu shots
- Employee development program of \$4,500/year
- Company paid cellphone

Questions?