

FOUNDATION DEGREE

GET PAID TO TRAIN FOR A CAREER AT SEA



A CAREER AT SEA



FOUNDATION DEGREE TRAINING

WHAT IS A CAREER AT SEA?

As a qualified seafaring Officer, you will be able to work worldwide on the many ship types that make up the British Shipping industry. These include cruise ships, ferries, oil and chemical tankers, gas carriers, container ships, bulk carriers, naval and offshore support ships and other specialised ship types.

There are two main departments in which you can train – deck or engineering.

• **Deck Officer**

handling the navigation, communications, cargo and overall management of the ship and the people on board.

• **Engineering Officer**

operating and maintaining all the mechanical and electrical/electronic equipment throughout the ship.

In both roles, you would have control of the latest technological systems and be working with highly sophisticated machinery. Your world-class training programme will give you your Foundation Degree and lead to professional seafaring certification, known as the Officer of the Watch (OOW) Certificate.

Should you later decide to move from seagoing employment, your qualifications and experience will be in high demand in the thousands of land-based jobs that require the experience of qualified seafarers.

WHAT FOUNDATION DEGREE CAN I STUDY?

The exact title of your foundation degree will vary by College/University but will be in either of the following subject areas:

- **Marine Operations for Deck Officer**
- **Marine Engineering for Engineering Officer**

In both subject areas the foundation degree programme includes study for the OOW professional seafarer certificate.

The Scottish Education system is different and Foundation Degrees are not available through Scottish Universities. However, you will be able to study an identical programme leading to equivalent Scottish qualifications and the OOW certification.

WHAT WILL THE TRAINING INVOLVE?

Your training will start at a nautical college or university with a residential phase, followed by a sea-going training phase. At sea you will put your learning into practice and you will work under the supervision of qualified officers. Your time will then alternate between college studies and training at sea.

Training lasts approximately three years and is fully paid for by the shipping company that sponsors you. Sea phases will be on a ship that could be trading

anywhere in the world and your sponsoring company will arrange your transport to the relevant port to join the ship.

On completion of your Foundation Degree and OOW certification, you will be qualified as an Officer. Further training and experience will enable you to work through the ranks to senior Officer and you could achieve the highest levels on board as Captain or Chief Engineer. You can also further your academic studies to Honours Degree level.

WHAT ARE THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

You will need :

- **120 UCAS points in unspecified A Levels**
- **Good grades at GCSE level in English, Maths and Physics (or Dual/Combined Science). This will generally mean grade A or B.**
- **Your sponsoring company may also have their own qualification requirements.**

WHERE CAN I STUDY?

You will study at one of the following colleges/universities offering Merchant Navy Foundation Degree training, depending on your sponsoring company training arrangements:

- **Blackpool and the Fylde College** in association with Liverpool John Moores University www.blackpool.ac.uk

- **Glasgow College of Nautical Studies** (for the Scottish equivalent programme) in association with Strathclyde University (Deck) and Glasgow Caledonian University (Engineering) www.gcns.ac.uk

- **Maritime Training Plymouth** in association with the University of Plymouth www.plymouthmaritimetraining.co.uk

- **South Tyneside College** in association with the University of Sunderland (Deck, subject to validation) and Northumbria University (Engineering) www.stc.ac.uk

- **University of Greenwich** in association with North West Kent College www.gre.ac.uk

- **Warsash Maritime Centre** – part of Southampton Solent University www.warsashcentre.co.uk

HOW DO I GET FUNDING?

Sponsorship for training is available from shipping companies and training organisations. Your course fees would be paid as well as a salary or training allowance. You need to apply directly to the shipping companies and training organisations for further details (see back page).



OPPORTUNITIES AT SEA

HOW DO I APPLY?

You will need to apply direct to the shipping companies/training organisations for recruitment and training and for sponsorship. Please see the accompanying list or visit

www.careersatsea.org

You can apply for the Foundation degree via UCAS but will still need to contact the sponsoring organisations for funding and sea-going training.

Candidates must be at least 18 years old

All seafarers are required by law to meet standards of medical fitness and eyesight laid down by the DfT and must pass the relevant medical examination. This will form part of the recruitment process.

“There is a world class training programme”

“I’m seeing the world first-class. It’s more than a job - it’s a way of life”

FURTHER INFO

Shipping Companies:

www.careersatsea.org
for list of companies.

Marine related degrees:

www.ucas.co.uk

Careers Information:

Careers at Sea,
Merchant Navy Training Board,
12 Carthusian Street, London EC1M 6EZ.
Tel: 0800 085 0973 www.careersatsea.org