



Navigating Communication & Collaboration

Below are sample careers in the marine industry – on land and on the water.

Deck, navigation, and vessel operations

The people who move vessels and keep them running underway. Public-facing at-sea careers, including the roles most students associate with maritime work from television and film. Representative job titles:

- Captain / master of vessel
- First mate, second mate, third mate
- Deckhand / able seaman
- Bosun (boatswain)
- Helmsman
- Navigation officer
- Harbormaster
- Pilot (harbor pilot, docking pilot)
- Tugboat operator
- Ferry operator
- Yacht crew (private and charter)
- USCG-licensed vessel operator

Marine engineering and technical trades

The hands-on technical skills that keep a vessel or shipyard operating. Representative job titles:

- Marine engineer
- Marine electrician
- Marine mechanic / diesel technician
- Hydraulics technician
- HVAC-R and refrigeration technician
- Welder (marine and structural)
- Marine carpenter
- Marine plumber
- Fiberglass technician
- Rigger
- Marine painter and finisher
- Outboard motor technician
- Instrumentation technician
- Marine service technology graduate

Shipyard, refit, and shipbuilding trades

The land-based industrial side. Where boats and ships are built, refitted, and repaired. Representative job titles:

- Shipyard foreman / production supervisor
- Hull technician
- Machinist / CNC operator
- Marine fabricator
- Yard electrician
- Pipefitter
- Boatbuilder
- Apprentice tradesperson
- Yard safety and compliance officer
- Blast and coatings technician
- Naval architecture technician
- Marine surveyor (yard side)

Yacht sales, brokerage, and the maritime business side

The commercial side of marine. Non-technical career paths that use math, communication, marketing, and business skills applied to the maritime industry. Representative job titles:

- Yacht broker
- Charter broker
- Yacht sales representative
- Marina manager
- Port operations manager
- Marine insurance underwriter and agent
- Marine finance specialist
- Marketing and communications (marine industry)
- Marine logistics and supply chain coordinator
- Marine dealership operations
- Commercial shipping operations
- Marine trade association staff

Interior, guest services, and hospitality at sea

Onboard hospitality and services. High-demand yacht and cruise-side careers. Representative job titles:

- Chief stewardess / chief steward
- Stewardess / steward
- Purser
- Executive chef
- Sous chef
- Provisioner
- Housekeeping (yacht and cruise)
- Food and beverage service
- Crew coordinator
- Guest experience manager
- Concierge (yacht and marina)

Blue economy, marine science, and stewardship

Science, research, and environmental careers connected to the ocean and to Florida's blue economy.

Representative job titles:

- Marine biologist
- Marine science technician
- Aquarist
- Dive instructor and dive safety officer
- Environmental specialist
- Port environmental officer
- Aquaculture technician
- Ocean and coastal researcher
- Water quality technician
- Marine educator
- Blue economy entrepreneur