



WASHINGTON MARITIME FEDERATION

A Coordinated Voice for Maritime Progress

STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY 2020

MARITIME WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Washington Maritime Federation (the Federation) represents the unified voice of the diverse and interdependent sub-sectors of the maritime industry. The Federation supports policy and investment priorities that increase the vitality, growth and resilience of Washington's maritime industry. Regional, state and federal priorities are based on a full consensus decision-making process by WMF members advised by associate members and a broad group of business, labor and government stakeholders.

Washington's maritime industry is a well-established legacy sector working today on the cutting edge to remain competitive and provide middle income jobs. To grow Washington's exceptional maritime industry, we must invest in and deliver innovative, relevant and standards-based education and training to students, apprentices and the incumbent workforce.

Overall, the maritime sector contributes \$16.7 billion in direct revenue, and employs 69,500 people. Including indirect and induced impacts, the sector is responsible for 189,000 jobs in the state and \$37.6 billion in economic activity.

SPECIFICALLY, THE WASHINGTON MARITIME FEDERATION SUPPORTS:

- The recommendations and funding proposals for **Career Connect Washington**.
- Funding for industry training programs, such as the **Job Skills Program (JSP)** Grant.
- **The Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence** initiative.
- **Core Plus and Youth Maritime Collaborative** funding for creating pipelines and pathways.
- **Registered apprenticeships**.

WHY

*Need for a technically **skilled workforce** will continue to increase. Maritime jobs support Washington's trade dependency both at sea and shoreside*

- **Living Wage Jobs** - The average annual maritime salary in our state is \$65,150, far exceeding the state average annual salary before benefits. Advanced degrees are not required to enter many careers in the maritime workforce.
- **Aging Workforce and Diversity** - The average age of the maritime workforce is more than 54 years old, and the need for a skilled maritime workforce extends beyond today's needs. Outreach to underserved and underrepresented communities is critical to growing the maritime workforce of the future.
- **Growing Industry** - As the gateway to the Pacific, our shipbuilding and repair sector is one of the strongest in the nation, while commercial shipping is increasing nationally and overseas. Our robust recreational boating industry needs increased capacity in boatyard support and services.
- **Clean Technology** - Washington State boasts global leadership in the growth of clean technology and best practices as the global maritime industry prioritizes this shift.



*The maritime industry supports a growing population with **living wage jobs** and addresses the need to grow middle class jobs.*



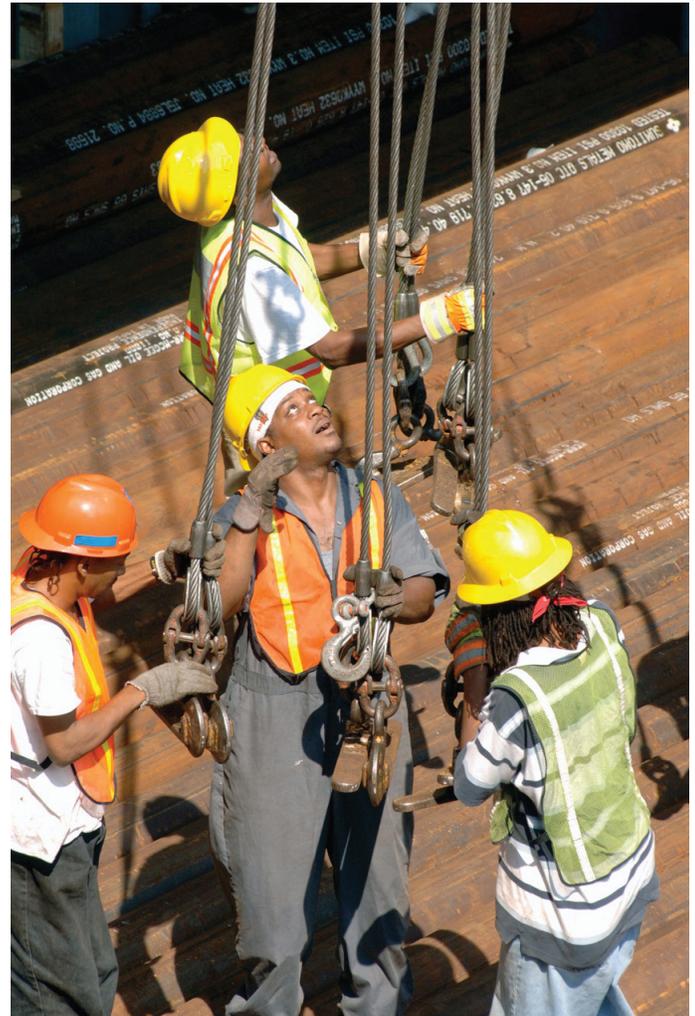


HOW

The WMF supports the following objectives to meet the immediate needs of the industry

- **Youth Maritime Collaborative (YMC)** – YMC supports funding to develop equitable and diverse pipelines and pathways for maritime careers
- **K-12 Education** - Dedicated funding and support are needed for **Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs** to ensure that schools across the state produce graduates who are ready to enter the workforce, or who enroll in technical education and registered apprenticeship programs.
- **Registered Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning** – Funding is needed to support increased coordination and development of **registered apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs.**
- **Community and Technical Colleges** – We need funding delivered to the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) for **dedicated maritime education and training.**
- **Four Year Universities** – Support is needed for the development of the **Ocean Engineering, Marine Mechanical and Electrical Engineering programs** across the university system.
- **Merchant Mariner Credentials** – We need funding to expand the seafaring workforce in Washington. This includes **funds for licensed mariners to attend USCG approved training courses.** .

*The Federation continues to **market and communicate** the value of maritime jobs, enhance and support the **connection between industry and education**, ensuring that curriculum and programs reflect the **core competencies** identified by industry partners.*



*Employment in the Maritime industry increased at an annual rate of **2.7%** between 2012 and 2015. The Maritime industry paid nearly **\$4.5 billion** in wages in 2015 with an average salary of **\$65,150** (does not include benefits).**

*2016. Community Attributes.
Washington Maritime Economic Impact Study.
www.maritimefederation.com/studies

