



U.S. GREAT LAKES MERCHANT SEAMAN EMPLOYMENT FACT SHEET

January 2009

The focus of this Fact Sheet is to provide a concentrated source of information for obtaining mariner employment on U.S.-flag, Great Lakes' commercial vessels. Many of the employment opportunities on the Lakes are listed here. Some vessel operators directly employ unlicensed seamen, while others are required by contract to hire only from union sources.

All commercial vessel employment requires a Merchant Mariner Document. This can be obtained through any U.S. Coast Guard Regional Examination Center. A new requirement is a Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC), which is issued by the Transportation Security Administration. Check the links below for additional information on employment requirements.

LICENSING / MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENT

Regional Examination Center	419-418-6010	www.uscg.mil/d9/msutoledo/rec.asp
U.S. Coast Guard, Toledo, OH		

TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL (TWIC)

Transportation Security Administration	866-347-8942	www.tsa.gov/twic
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LICENSED OFFICER EMPLOYMENT

American Maritime Officers	419-255-3940	www.amo-union.org
Int'l Org. of Masters, Mates, & Pilots	216-776-1667	www.bridgedeck.org
Marine Engineers Beneficial Assoc.	216-579-6322	www.d1meba.org

UNLICENSED SEAMAN / UNION HIRING

Seafarers International Union/NMU	810-794-4988 (MI) 815-723-8002 (IL)	www.seafarers.org
United Steelworkers Local 5000	440-243-7000	web - none

UNLICENSED SEAMAN / COMPANIES CONDUCTING DIRECT HIRING

American Steamship Co.	716-635-0222	www.americansteamship.com
Central Marine Logistics	219-922-2644	www.centralmarinelogistics.com
Grand River Navigation	440-930-2024	web - none
Great Lakes Fleet/Key Lakes, Inc.	800-535-2321 x2412	www.greatlakesfleet.com
Interlake Steamship Co.	330-659-1400 x1140	www.interlakesteamship.com
Lake Express Ferry	866-914-1010	www.lake-express.com
Lake Michigan Car Ferry	231-843-1509	www.ssbadger.com
Père Marquette Shipping Co.	231-845-7846	www.pmship.com

SUPPLEMENTAL WEB SITES

Great Lakes Maritime Academy - www.nmc.edu/maritime	Licensing Service - www.seakslicensing.com
Great Lakes Ports Assoc. - www.greatlakesports.org	Marine Weather - www.weather.gov/greatlakes
Great Lakes & Seaway Shipping - www.boatnerd.com	Seaway Channel - www.seawaychannel.com
International Shipmasters' Assoc. - www.shipmaster.org	Seaway System - www.greatlakes-seaway.com
Lake Carriers' Assoc. - www.lcaships.com	U.S. GL Shipping Assoc. - www.usglsa.org

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION'S WEB ASSISTANCE

www.marad.dot.gov → across the top of the page, select "Education" and "Mariners" tabs for these subjects:
 Mariner Education - U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, MARAD Fire Training Center, & state schools
 Employment Information - Licensing and documentation