



VIRGINIA MAITLAND SACHS FOUNDATION



APPLY

scan above; or visit
[vms-fdn.org/
deckhandtraining](https://vms-fdn.org/deckhandtraining)

Deckhand Training Program & Career Opportunity

**Average starting annual salary
\$50,000-\$55,000; Full benefits & 401K**

When pursuing a career in the maritime industry, additional training and certifications can lead to career advancement and higher-paying positions like marine engineering or licensed deck officer.

The VMS Foundation is initiating a Deckhand Training Program, aimed at fostering an alternative pathway to careers in the maritime industry. Potential trainees will undergo comprehensive training, combining hands-on experience and classroom lessons, with special focus on deckhand skills to support crew on tugboats. A lucrative and niche training opportunity!

As part of the program, trainees will receive essential equipment and financial support to obtain all necessary working permits & licenses required to work as a Deckhand. Our mission is to provide access for underrepresented youth and young people to succeed in the maritime industry.

Program Requirements

- Must be between the ages of 18-26 (no prior experience on boats required);
- Must have a high school diploma or GED;
- Must have U.S. citizenship;
- Must have no criminal background and be able to pass a background check;
- Must be 100% drug-free (initial screening supported by VMSF. Ongoing screenings are issued by employers).
- Once selected, participants must adhere to a challenging and comprehensive work-study program.
- Must be willing and able to travel outside the state for extended periods of time.