



U.S. Department of
Transportation
Maritime Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Centers of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE):

MiraCosta Community College District

Located in San Diego, California, home to one of the largest ocean technology, or “blue tech” industries, MiraCosta Community College District (MCCCD) provides training and education to support this thriving maritime economic sector. MiraCosta College has created accelerated training programs that provide non-credit, certificate training programs leading to industry-approved credentials that result in employment within the maritime industry ashore. Designation as a Center of Excellence will help boost existing collaborative relationships between MCCCD and the maritime industry to recruit, support and upskill incumbent workers and individuals with barriers to education and employment for careers in the Blue Economy, and specifically in Blue Tech within San Diego.

MiraCosta College offers accelerated certificate programs in sector areas of Advanced Manufacturing, Engineer and Transportation/Logistics. Specifically, these programs are Unmanned Systems, Machining Technology, Engineering Technician, and Electronic Assembly. Graduates from these rigorous hands-on training courses fill critical positions throughout San Diego in the maritime industry as shipbuilders, test technicians, ROV pilots, AUV operators, production machinists, assemblers, product developers, mechanical design engineering technicians, aquaculture workers, electrical engineer technicians, welders, and fabricators. Through collaboration and engagement with organizations like the San Diego Maritime Alliance and the Department of Labor, MCCCD has grown its maritime programs significantly, which led to being awarded the “America’s Promise” grant, a six million-dollar grant to support activities promoting and enhancing the Blue Economy.

MiraCosta College’s student body has a high level of gender and ethnic diversity, with female, as well as Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Black, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and Asian students in attendance. Additionally, MCCCD has contributed to a highly successful and diverse maritime workforce through its programs, graduating hundreds of students each year who enter high-paying careers supporting the U.S. maritime industry.

The Secretary of Transportation designates MiraCosta Community College District as a 2021 CoE in recognition of its high quality and lasting commitment toward maritime workforce development.