

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

Anne Arundel Community College

Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) is located in Arnold, Maryland, near BWI Thurgood Marshall International Airport, the Port of Baltimore, the U.S. Naval Academy, the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS), Fort George G. Meade, NSA, and many other government and private industries. Since 1961, AACC has responded to the needs of the diverse regional community by offering high quality, affordable, accessible and innovative lifelong learning opportunities. Today, AACC offers programs that gives students the broad knowledge, skills, and training required to work in jobs related to cargo handling, warehouse and distribution, supply chain logistics, airport and seaport operations, related technologies, and security operations.

Anne Arundel Community College is the only community college in Maryland that is a part of the National Maritime Workforce Alliance, a 15-member national consortium of state, community and technical colleges, and maritime training centers united in a commitment to produce, expand, and strengthen the maritime workforce. Additionally, AACC's program effectiveness is outstanding. Although the nation has seen a decrease in full time enrollment at community colleges over the last several years, AACC, through its strategic planning and program completion strategies, has seen an increase in its student body and completion rate.

AACC coordinates with other community colleges, industry partners, and government agencies to further improve the maritime industry. They have received grants and awards, allowing them to improve facilities and develop programs such as hosting regional focus groups on transportation initiatives; organizing, attending, and speaking at national maritime conferences; hosting annual Summer Institutes for High School Teachers; facilitating field trips for area high school parents and students to ports and transportation sites; creating a Transportation and Logistics summer program for middle school students; and creating the curriculum for an Associate of Applied Science degree in Transportation Technologies.

AACC also fosters and promotes a culture of diversity and inclusion that supports the success of minority students. The institution's strategic plan focuses on creating ideal conditions to ensure that more students complete their educational goals and earn family sustaining wages. Its Model Course work, which emphasizes culturally responsive teaching, is fundamental to building a completion and equity agenda, while affirming that academic quality and rigor remain high.

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