



OCEANS-NS, 2014

Ship's Navigation Officer

Median Yearly Income (2010): \$78, 952

This unit group is for ship's captain and other deck officers: Deck officers operate ships or self-propelled vessels to transport passengers and cargo on oceans and coastal and inland waters, and supervise and co-ordinate the activities of deck crews.

WHAT YOU DO

Ship's Navigation Officers are responsible for the safety of the ship, your crew and any other person on board the vessel. They may plan and execute safe passage using navigational aids and determine the geographical position ships using navigational instruments, maps, and charts. They may also direct and oversee the loading and unloading of cargo; and record on the ship's log the vessel's progress, crew's activities, and weather and sea conditions.



Institute for Ocean Research Enterprise, 2015

WHAT YOU NEED

- ❖ Enjoy being at sea;
- ❖ A sense of responsibility and strong leadership qualities are needed;
- ❖ Must be in good health and meet eyesight and colour vision requirements;
- ❖ Problem-solving and decision making skills are essential;
- ❖ Have a strong understanding of principles of marine navigation, seamanship, meteorology, ship construction and stability;
- ❖ The ability to work well with other professionals;
- ❖ Enjoy variety in job tasks; and
- ❖ Excellent communication skills.

Ship's navigation officers perform some or all of the following duties:

- ❖ Command and operate ships or other self-propelled vessels, such as barges or oil rigs, to transport passengers and cargo;
- ❖ Plan and execute safe navigational passage using navigational aids;
- ❖ Determine geographical position using navigational instruments, maps and charts; and
- ❖ Command and operate coast guard vessels to provide ice-breaking and search and rescue services.

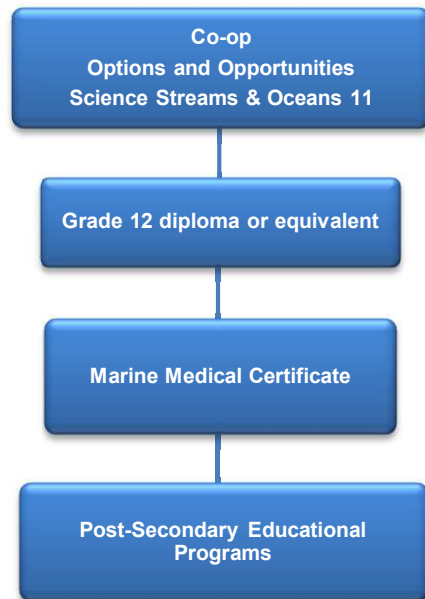
Ship's Navigation Officer



CAREER PATHWAY

OVERVIEW

- ❖ **Work Type:** Full-time
- ❖ **Area Most Likely to Work:** Halifax, South Shore and Cape Breton.
- ❖ **Most Employees Have:** Trades certificate or diploma
- ❖ **Certification:** Transport Canada - Certificate of Competency for Watchkeeping Mate
- ❖ **Work Prospects:** Fair*



Opportunities available for high school students to gain hands-on and/or practical experience that could help them connect in this career.

Not For Profits/Governmental Organizations

- Techsploration (techsploration.ca/)
- Skills Canada (skillscanada.com)
- Federal Student Work Experience Program (jobs-emploi.gc.ca)

3 years: Tuition fees approx. \$3, 130/year

Nova Scotia Community College:
Marine Navigation Technology Diploma

A paid 4 year training program

Canadian Coast Guard College: Navigation Officer Training Program

Regulating Body: Transport Canada's Certificate of Competency for Watchkeeping Mate Exam. Successful completion of this exam enables you to secure a job in the Marine industry as a Ship's navigation officer

Examples of Nova Scotia companies and organizations that offer this career

- Canadian Coast Guard
- Canadian Forces
- Marine Atlantic
- Secunda Canada
- SuperPort Marine

References and Resource Links

- * The employment outlook over the next few years for this occupational group is "fair", which indicates the chances of a qualified individual finding work is around average.
- Careers Nova Scotia (<http://careers.novascotia.ca/>)
- Create your career plan (careeringear.nssc.ca)
- Transport Canada (<http://www.tc.gc.ca>)
- 2273 national occupation classification (<http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2011/QuickSearch.aspx?val65=2273>)