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March 8, 2024

Email: lmarra@star-center.com
STAR Center
Attention: Ms. Lisa Marra
2 West Dixie Highway
Dania Beach, FL 33004
Facility Code: 3-5-4882-10

Date Completed Packet Received:
February 9, 2024
Determination Date:
March 8, 2024
Effective Date:
January 1, 2024

Appropriate Section of Law:

☒ Chapter 36, Title 38, U.S. Code, Section 3676

Internal Use Only

☒ NCD

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RE: Notice of Reapproval – Course Catalog - 2024

By the authority of 38 United States Code (USC) §§ 3671(a), 3672(a), 3673(a), the Florida State Approving Agency for Veterans' Education and Training (SAA) grants reapproval of this nonaccredited private/non-profit institution in accordance with the provisions of 38 USC § 3672(b)(2)(A)(i). In accordance with 38 USC 3678, a copy of this approval notification, including documents and information submitted to this office will be sent to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

This approval supersedes all prior approvals for your institution. The date of determination is March 8, 2024. The effective date of this approval is January 1, 2024, and it **will expire December 31, 2024**, unless prior to that date, a significant change occurs, or a new catalog is published for this institution. The date a completed submission was received is February 9, 2024. This institution must continue to comply with state and federal regulations as referenced in this letter. It is important to note that this approval may be further impacted by Public Law 116-315, The Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020. The SAA may request additional information pertaining to approval requirements following enactment and enforcement of this recent law.

Conditions of Approval:

As a reminder, the official signatory for this institution agrees to comply with a number of requirements listed in the signed and dated True and Correct Statement (BSA Form 1200/1200a, as appropriate). Compliance with all is required for the institution to retain approval status for VA Education Assistance. The following is a summary of certain requirements to emphasize their importance:

- The institution will keep written records of progress for each enrolled veteran or eligible person.
- A written record must be on file which shows the previous education and training of the veteran or eligible person has been evaluated.
- The facility must report changes to enrollment, terminations, program or other changes without delay.
- An educational training facility with a program of education approved under this chapter is prohibited from engaging in substantial misrepresentation through advertising, sales or enrollment practices.

- Records are to be made available for review, upon request by an authorized representative of the SAA and/or the VA.

APPROVED PROGRAMS

Approvable Courses: It is determined that the programs listed below are not avocational or recreational per 38 USC § 3680A Disapproval of enrollment in certain courses.

Contracted Programs: The institution does not offer contracted programs.

Course Consistency: It is determined the programs are consistent in quality, content, and length for similar courses in public institutions with similar courses, and private schools in the state.

Cooperative Courses: The institution is approved for Cooperative Courses, consistent with 38 CFR § 21.4257, as required by the curricula.

Degree, Certificate or Diploma Requirements: Pages 11. The institution lists the degree requirements and unit subjects for degrees and certificates. It is determined the institution meets this requirement.

License Requirements: Consistent with Public Law 114-315 Jeff Miller and Richard Blumenthal Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2016, Section 409, or 38 USC 3675, as amended, Consistent with Public Law 114-315 Jeff Miller and Richard Blumenthal Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2016, Section 409, or 38 USC 3676, as amended, the institution includes information about licensing requirements in its catalog and meets the standards developed by a state agency in an occupation that requires licensure. It is determined the institution meets this requirement.

Practical Training: The institution is not approved for Practical Training, consistent with 38 CFR § 21.4265.

Independent Study/Modality of Delivery: (Distance Learning, Hybrid, Online, or Traditional In-Resident). The institution is approved by its accrediting agency to offer programs through traditional in-residence format. This institution is not approved for Independent Study.

Approved Programs

| Program Name (Certificate) | Program Change | VA FT | Total Clock Hours | Comments |
|--|----------------|-------|-------------------|----------|
| Able Seaman | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Advanced Bridge Resource Management | No Change | 18 | 35 | |
| Advanced Cargo Handling & Stowage (Management Level) | No Change | 18 | 36 | |
| Advanced Celestial Navigation (Management Level) | No Change | 18 | 42 | |
| Advanced Chemical Tankers | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Advanced Emergency Shiphandling for 1 st Class Pilots | No Change | 22 | 40 | |

| Program Name (Certificate) | Program Change | VA FT | Total Clock Hours | Comments |
|--|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Advanced Firefighting Revalidation | No Change | 18 | 8 | |
| Advanced Firefighting Refresher | No Change | 18 | 12 | |
| Advanced Meteorology | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Advanced Navigation | No Change | 18 | 35 | |
| Advanced Shiphandling | No Change | 22 | 70 | |
| Advanced Shiphandling for Masters and Senior Deck Officers | No Change | 22 | 70 | |
| Advanced Shiphandling and Watchkeeping for Third Mates | No Change | 22 | 80 | |
| Advanced Stability | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Assessment of Seafarer Proficiency | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Automatic Radar Plotting Aids (ARPA) | No Change | 18 | 32 | |
| Basic Electricity | No Change | 18 | 80 | |
| Basic Fire Fighting | No Change | 18 | 16 | |
| Advanced Training for Polar Operations | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Basic Training | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Basic Training for Polar Operations | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Basic Training Refresher | No Change | 18 | 24 | |
| Basic Training Revalidation | No Change | 18 | 8 | |
| Bridge Resource Management (24 Hour) | No Change | 18 | 24 | |
| Combined Basic & Advanced Fire Fighting | No Change | 18 | 35 | |
| Combined Basic & Advanced Low Flash Point Fuel Operations | No Change | 18 | 40 | |

| Program Name (Certificate) | Program Change | VA FT | Total Clock Hours | Comments |
|---|----------------|-------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Crisis Management & Human Behavior | No Change | 18 | 7 | |
| Crowd Management | No Change | 18 | 7 | |
| Diesel Crossover (Endorsement) | No Change | 18 | 160 | |
| Dynamic Positioning – Simulator | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Dynamic Positioning – Induction | No Change | 18 | 36 | |
| Dynamic Positioning – Revalidation/Refresher (Formerly Known as: Dynamic Positioning – Revalidation) | Name Change | 18 | 40 | Effective Date: 01/01/2024 |
| Electronic Chart Display Information Systems | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| First Aid & CPR | No Change | 18 | 8 | |
| Engine Resource Management | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Fast Rescue Boat | No Change | 18 | 32 | |
| Gas Turbine Crossover (Endorsement) | No Change | 18 | 80 | |
| Global Maritime Distress & Safety System | No Change | 18 | 70 | |
| High Voltage Safety | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Leadership & Managerial Skills | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Liquefied Gas Tanker (Membrane) Cargo | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Marine Propulsion Plants | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Management of Electrical, Electronic Control Equipment (MEECE) | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Management of Medical Care | No Change | 18 | 4 | |
| Marine Environmental Awareness | No Change | 18 | 20 | |
| Maritime Security Awareness | No Change | 18 | 5 | |

| Program Name (Certificate) | Program Change | VA FT | Total Clock Hours | Comments |
|---|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Marlinspike Seamanship | No Change | 18 | 5 | |
| Medical Care Person in Charge | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Medical Care Provider | No Change | 18 | 24 | |
| OICEW Auxiliary Machinery | No Change | 18 | 200 | |
| OICEW Diesel Engine | No Change | 22 | 160 | |
| OICEW Engine Watchkeeping Operational Level | No Change | 22 | 80 | |
| OICEW Engineering Terminology & Shipboard Operations (ETSO) | No Change | 18 | 70 | |
| OICEW Electrical Machinery & Basic Electronics (EMBE) | No Change | 18 | 160 | |
| OICEW Instrumentation | No Change | 18 | 160 | |
| OICEW Machine Shop | No Change | 22 | 80 | |
| OICEW Maintenance & Repair | No Change | 22 | 140 | |
| OICNW Meteorology - Operational Level | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| OICNW Basic Shiphandling | No Change | 22 | 40 | |
| OICNW Cargo Handling & Stowage | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| OICNW Celestial Navigation | No Change | 18 | 80 | |
| OICNW Electronic Navigation | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| OICNW Emergency Procedures & SAR | No Change | 18 | 32 | |
| OICNW Magnetic & Gyro Compasses | No Change | 18 | 24 | |
| OICNW Stability & Ship Construction | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| OICNW Terrestrial & Coastal Navigation | No Change | 18 | 80 | |
| OICNW Watchkeeping | No | 18 | 80 | |

| Program Name (Certificate) | Program Change | VA FT | Total Clock Hours | Comments |
|--|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | Change | | | |
| Personal Survival Techniques Revalidation | No Change | 18 | 4 | |
| Proficiency in Survival Craft | No Change | 18 | 32 | |
| Proficiency in Survival Craft Refresher | No Change | 18 | 8 | |
| Radar Observer Recertification | No Change | 18 | 8 | |
| Radar Observer (Unlimited) | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Rating forming part of a Navigational Watch Assessment | No Change | 18 | 8 | |
| Refrigeration (Management Level) | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Refrigeration (Operational Level) | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Search & Rescue | No Change | 18 | 16 | |
| Simulator Instructor Training | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Steam Crossover (Endorsement) | No Change | 18 | 160 | |
| Tankship Dangerous Liquids (Classroom) | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Tankship Dangerous Liquids (Simulator) | No Change | 18 | 80 | |
| Tankship Familiarization (Dangerous Liquids) | No Change | 18 | 32 | |
| Tankship Liquefied Gasses | No Change | 18 | 60 | |
| Towing Officer Assessment Record (TOAR) | No Change | 18 | 40 | |
| Train the Trainer | No Change | 18 | 50 | |
| Vessel and Company Security Officer | No Change | 18 | 20 | |
| Vessel Personnel Designed Security Duties | No Change | 18 | 16 | |
| Visual Communications (Flashing Light) | No Change | 18 | 2 | |
| Welding & Metallurgy Skills & Practices | No Change | 18 | 80 | |

| COOPERATIVE – Still Approved | Program Change | Type | Length | Classroom/OJT Hours |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Third Engineer Program/TECH | No Change | CLOCK | 4160 | 2080/2080 |

Policy Requirements and SAA Attestations

ACADEMIC CALENDAR: Page 8, Addendum 2. The institution includes individual program enrollment dates and legal holiday closures.

STATE LICENSING: The institution is exempt from state licensure.

ADEQUATE SPACE/EQUIPMENT/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL/INSTRUCTOR PERSONNEL: Page 3, Addendum 1. The institution meets standards regarding adequate space, equipment, instructional material and personnel. It is determined the institution meets this requirement.

ADMINISTRATOR, DIRECTOR, OWNER, AND INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS/REPUTATION AND REPUTATION AND CHARACTER. Pages Addendum 1. The institution meets CIE standards regarding staff and instructor qualifications, ethical standards, and continuing education. Therefore, it is determined the institution meets this requirement.

ADVERTISING/ENROLLMENT PRACTICES: The institution provided a screenshot of web site. The institution does not use “VA Approved” to advertise. The institution is not using Veteran Emblems (or logos) or those of Military Branches. Permission is required to do so. The institution does not reference GI Bill® on its materials or pages. Please note, if the institution decides to utilize the registered trademark, it must prominently display the following statement, “GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).” It is determined the institution does not utilize erroneous or deceptive advertising or enrollment practices.

ATTENDANCE: Page 9. The institution has policy and regulations relative to leave, absences, tardiness and interruptions for unsatisfactory attendance. Nonaccredited institutions are required to record attendance and follow its policies. Therefore, it is determined the institution meets this requirement.

COMPLETION: Page 11. The institution issues a diploma upon successful completion of training. Therefore, it is determined the institution meets this requirement.

CREDIT FOR PREVIOUS EDUCATION AND TRAINING: Page 10. The institution has a prior learning policy and maintains a written record that indicates previous education and training has been evaluated and granted, as appropriate, with training time shortened and tuition reduced proportionately. Therefore, it is determined the institution meets this requirement.

ENROLLMENT LIMITS: 10 students per class.

FINANCIAL SOUNDNESS: No sanctions or issues regarding financial soundness were found in CIE actions. Therefore, it is determined the institution is financially sound and capable of fulfilling training requirements.

GI BILL® FEEDBACK SYSTEM REVIEW: The institution has no complaints pertaining to approval criteria, such as quality of education, accreditation, quality of instructors, or quality of equipment.

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATION: The institution provides the requirements for preparing students for state licensing requirements within each program. Therefore, it is determined the institution meets this requirement.

PRO RATA REFUND: Page 14. The institution has a pro rata refund policy regarding unused portions of tuition, fees, and other charges. Therefore, the institution meets this requirement.

STANDARDS OF PROGRESS: Page 9-10. Students who do not meet the minimum requirements may not be recertified for VA educational benefits until the student achieves satisfactory academic progress. The policies state the grading system and explain the conditions for interruption for unsatisfactory progress and the requirements for reinstatement. It is determined the institution meets this requirement.

STUDENT CONDUCT: Page 10, Handbook page 7-16. The institution includes policy and requirements relating to student conduct and conditions for dismissal are published and enforced. It is determined the institution meets this requirement.

STUDENT RECORDS: Page 9. Student records are maintained and include academic and financial folders that contain attendance, clock hours, grades, practical hours. It is determined the institution meets this requirement.

TUITION AND FEES: Pages 11, Addendum 2. The institution provides a tuition and fee schedule as well as costs for books, supplies, and all other charges. It is determined the institution meets this requirement.

PUBLISHED POLICIES REQUIRED FOR SAA REVIEW:

Penalty Prohibition: (applies to all institutions) Page 10-11. Public Law 115-407 Veterans Benefits Transition Act Of 2018 or 38 USC § 3679(e), as amended. The policy indicates that the institution will not impose financial or access penalties on the individual for a minimum of 90 days while awaiting VA payment. In addition, the institution will not require a covered individual to request a student loan to cover the pending VA payment. Students using Chapter 33 benefits will provide a Certificate of Eligibility, a written request to be certified, and/or information needed to properly certify the enrollment. Students enrolled using Veterans Readiness & Employment (Chapter 31) benefits will provide appropriate verification of benefits. It is determined the institution meets this requirement.

Qualifications for This Approval

The following are ineligible for VA Educational Assistance and are therefore not approved:

Auditing a Course, Career Pathways, Continuing Education, Leave of Absence, Customized Training for Industry, Maximum Time Frame, Non-Degree Seeking Student, Personal Interest Courses, Repeating Courses (A course may be repeated to improve a failed grade only. Veteran beneficiaries must complete program within SAA approved program hours), Work Based Learning, and any other program not listed in this letter.

A WEAMS report dated January 1, 2023, was reviewed during the review. The approval letter was compared to the information contained in WEAMS and therefore indicates changes and updates. This approval is contingent upon final review and acceptance by VA. Upon VA's acceptance of this SAA approval, VA will email a copy of the VA 22-1998 (WEAMS) report reflecting approval changes. Upon receipt, please read it carefully and verify its accuracy. If errors are found, please contact this office immediately. Certifying Official, please do not make any changes in VAONCE until you have received a new WEAMS report.

The school must notify and submit any changes or revisions to the documentation and information provided to the Florida SAA, within 30 days. Changes include, but are not limited to: ownership, chief administrative officers, location, licensure, profit status, accreditation, new catalog, etc. Failure to submit timely notification and/or deviation from information submitted to the Florida SAA, which served as a basis for this approval, may result in suspension or withdrawal of the institution's approval to participate in VA Educational Assistance.

If you have questions, please contact me at the following email: brad.gilkes@fdva.fl.gov, or by telephone at the following telephone number (352) 422-5736.

Sincerely,



Brad O. Gilkes
Program Specialist IV

Official Communication Sent Via Email Only

cc: Mr. David Williams, Education Liaison Representative

NOTE TO ELR: Please email copy of the WEAMS report to the Florida SAA at FDVA.SAAOutreach@fdva.fl.gov

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