

STAR Center

Simulation, Training, Assessment & Research

2 West Dixie Highway
Dania Beach, FL 33004

STAR Center is a not-for-profit maritime training facility that is the top choice of inland and ocean-going professional mariners throughout the world. Opening in 1983 in Toledo, Ohio, STAR Center expanded to Dania Beach in 1986. STAR Center's South Florida location offers a wide range of training.



ISO 9001 Quality Certified Center



Information Online:

[www.star-center.com/techprogram/
techprogram.html](http://www.star-center.com/techprogram/techprogram.html)

E-mail: tech@star-center.com

*We are accepting applications on a
continuous basis. See website for
details.*



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TECH PROGRAM

The Engineering Candidate
Hawsepipe Program

*****Approved for VA Benefits*****



**Achieve Your Unlimited U.S.
Merchant Marine Engineering
License in 2 Years**

www.star-center.com

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techprogram.html](https://www.star-center.com/techprogram/techprogram.html)

Email: tech@star-center.com

Is a Seafaring Career for Me?

The seagoing sector of the U.S. maritime industry employs men and women who work on a variety of vessels. While the maritime industry involves many aspects, this program concentrates on work in the engine department. Maritime engineers operate primarily U.S. flagged commercial ships and military sealift vessels sailing on the deep seas, inland waterways and the Great Lakes. They play a vital role in facilitating waterborne commerce and providing critical logistical support for our troops overseas.

Shipboard life can be very demanding but very rewarding. Mariners live and work together aboard ship and may be away from home for months at a time. Jobs are good paying with excellent benefits, including great medical, pensions, large amounts of vacation time, and world travel in an industry that is vital to US commerce and security.



TECH Program

The TECH Program is a comprehensive training program created by STAR Center to support American Maritime Officers (AMO), the largest union of U.S. licensed merchant marine officers.

The purpose is to provide those who want to pursue careers as seagoing marine engineers with the opportunity to proceed on a marine engineering career path and help fill the developing shortage of marine engineers.

The program targets high performing high school graduates and others with an interest in the merchant marine and mentors them during intense training onboard ship and ashore.

The TECH Program will take approximately 2 years to complete and alternates between classroom training and sea phases.



TECH Program

At the successful completion of all phases, the candidate will meet the United States Coast Guard requirement to take the USCG Third Assistant Engineer Motor exam. The candidate will prepare for and complete the exam while at STAR Center.



Application Process

There are several components to the application process. Complete details and application deadline dates are available at:

<https://www.star-center.com/techprogram/techprogram.html>

We are accepting applications on a continuous basis. See website for details.



Fees and Compensation



Tuition and room and board fees for this program, as well as most transportation costs incurred in completing the program, may be satisfied through a commitment to sail under covered employment with AMO immediately upon successful graduation as a licensed engineer for a minimum of 180 employment days annually for a minimum of five (5) years.

There are, however, limited fees to be paid by the candidate for the following (financial assistance may be available if required):

- Dental examinations associated with the application process and United States Coast Guard (USCG) physicals
- Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and USCG fees to obtain Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) and USCG Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC)
- Uniform fees for initial phases of the program
- Transportation costs to STAR Center (Ft. Lauderdale) for initial program orientation

While in the program TECH candidates will receive a limited stipend during certain shoreside training portions and cadet wages during assignments onboard ship. In addition, individual medical benefit coverage will be provided to the TECH candidate through the AMO Medical Plan.

Entry Criteria

Must be 18 years or older, a U.S. citizen, have no criminal record, and be in good physical health.

Must pass an entry academic and aptitude selection screening, during which time the candidate will be evaluated to determine his or her physical fitness.

An applicant must be self-motivated to succeed in the classroom and aboard a vessel.

An ideal candidate will be able to handle the mental and physical aspects of shipboard life. This program is ideal for veterans.