



We have prepared this Briefing primarily for employers who are considering employing apprentices for the first time, or extending their apprenticeship programme to other parts of their business.

Training providers and sector bodies are your best guides for more information: see the links below. If you're stuck please contact [Iain Mackinnon](#) at the MSA.

If you don't see what you are looking for, try the search facility on the [Institute for Apprenticeships' website](#). If you think there's a gap to be filled (eg in your part of the UK), contact [Iain Mackinnon](#).

Fishing

The [sea fishing](#) apprenticeship in Scotland is supported by both [NAFC](#) in Shetland and the [Scottish Maritime Academy](#) in Peterhead. There is no longer a Government-recognised apprenticeship in England, though [Whitby Fishing School](#) runs an equivalent programme.

Inland Waterways

The [Boatmaster](#) apprenticeship (available in England only) provides the underpinning knowledge for the Boatmaster licence, Tier 1 Level 2.

Three training providers are currently approved to deliver the off-the-job parts of the training: [North Kent College](#), [Red Ensign Ltd](#) on the Isle of Wight and [Sea Regs Ltd](#), based in Plymouth.

Marinas and Boatyards

There is a [Marina & Boatyard Operative](#) apprenticeship in England, with three providers supporting it so far: [Brockenhurst College](#), [Cornwall Training](#) and [South Devon College Marine Academy](#).

Merchant Navy

There are three apprenticeships for ratings in England and Scotland:

- deck ratings in [England](#) and [Scotland](#)
- engine room ratings in [England](#) and [Scotland](#)
- [catering ratings](#) in England. There's a different approach in Scotland, which uses a maritime variant of the standard hospitality Modern Apprenticeship: contact [City of Glasgow College](#).

www.maritimeskills.org

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These training providers support ratings apprenticeships (and others might if you ask): [City of Glasgow College](#), [Fleetwood Nautical Campus](#), [North Kent College](#), Isle of Wight-based [Red Ensign Ltd](#) and [South Shields Marine School](#).

The MNTB is also developing a new “onboard services” apprenticeship for stewards and related roles: contact [Mark Burgess](#).

The [Maritime Educational Foundation](#) offers £4,000 grants to companies employing apprentice ratings.

Officer Of the Watch

Designed primarily for sectors which do not use SMarT funding, such as tugs, there are two OOW apprenticeships, for <500GT (Near Coastal) and <3000GT (Near Coastal); details [here](#).

Ports

There is an apprenticeship for **port operatives** at Level 2, available in both [England](#) and [Scotland](#). For supervisors, Port Skills and Safety recommend companies to use the generic [Team Leader / Supervisor](#) apprenticeship, tailored for a port environment: contact [Richard Steele](#) at PSS.

There are also two higher level apprenticeships (primarily designed as a re-training option for people with relevant prior experience): [Port Marine Operations Officers](#), and [Marine Pilots](#).

Workboats

There are apprenticeships for workboat operatives in both [England](#) and [Scotland](#). The English apprenticeship is supported by Whitby-based [54 North Maritime Training Ltd](#). For Scotland, please contact [Mark Ranson](#), National Workboat Association.

And in the pipeline ...

The Maritime SuperSkills team at Liverpool John Moores University are supporting new apprenticeships for **Marine Technical Superintendents**, **Marine Surveyors**, and **Harbourmasters**. Contact: [Di Fitch](#).

The new **Small Vessel Engineer** route to certification will be supported by a new apprenticeship, linked to the existing Marine Engineer apprenticeship in a core-and-options format. Contact: [Iain Mackinnon](#).

All maritime apprentices (not just engineers) are eligible for [Student Membership of IMarEST](#), the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology.

The National Union of Students also offers its [NUS Extra](#) discount card to apprentices.

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