

The National Maritime College of Ireland (NMCI) is located in Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork and provides training and education for the Merchant Marine and the non-military needs of the Irish Naval Service (INS).

The NMCI provides education services of the highest quality. Specialist spaces including survival facilities, seamanship and shipwrights' workshops, fire fighting/damage control, jetty and lifeboat facilities and engine room are provided. The College also provides specialised simulation equipment in the areas of navigation, bridge training, communications, engineering-machinery operations, liquid cargo handling/damage control and vessel traffic systems. These facilities fully comply with the most up to date international standards and requirements. A multipurpose hall and sporting facilities are also included in the College.

Careers at Sea

Life at sea has always appealed to people who want to combine travel with a challenging career offering exciting future prospects within the associated marine industries. This is the life for those who relish the challenge of working with the sea.

Ships carry 95% of world trade and seaborne traffic is forecast to increase significantly. This is generating a great demand for high-quality personnel to manage and operate today's technically sophisticated ships. Apart from seagoing duty, the maritime industry also involves shipbuilding and ship repair, marine equipment companies, ports, surveying, administration services, insurance and law.

This major industry is looking for capable and enthusiastic people who are ready for responsibility and hard work, and who enjoy using the latest technology. You will become a key member of a highly qualified team, whether on a giant supertanker, a container ship, a cross-channel ferry, a cruise liner, a specialised vessel servicing the offshore oil industry or on a cargo ship. Opportunities at a senior level in management, marine administration, and many other marine related areas are plentiful and experienced marine people are always sought for such positions.

The NMCI is the designated National Centre for education and training for careers in the maritime sector.

In addition to theoretical studies, students gain practical experience in safety, personal survival, first aid and fire-fighting. All students train with experienced seafarers at the NMCI and aboard merchant vessels worldwide. Whether the choice is Nautical Science or Marine Engineering, the student will experience the most modern resources in the world of seafarer training.

Government Aid for Training of Seafarers

This scheme provides financial support for trainee engineering and deck officer cadets and for other junior officer training. The current scheme provides financial support to merchant marine trainees at the NMCI and is funded by the Department of Transport. These grants may cover the cost of mandatory courses and fees that are

not covered by the Department of Education and are needed to bring a trainee to his or her first professional qualifications.

There is also a grant payable during sea training. The administration of grants is conducted by The Irish Maritime Development Office: www.imdo.ie

The programme described may be subject to modifications to ensure continued compliance with the Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for seafarers, STCW 78 as amended.

Student Life

Students are at the heart of any college. Here at NMCI it's no different. Due to the nature of life at sea, our students come from very diverse backgrounds and have a very broad age profile. Most come directly from second level schools and colleges, however, many are seasoned seafarers returning to gain further qualifications so that they can advance in their careers at sea.

General Facilities

There is a cafeteria and vending machines in NMCI. Breakfast, lunch, hot meals and a selection of sandwiches are served. NMCI has a hall for indoor sports and a gym equipped with weights equipment. An instructor is available to design fitness programmes. Students registered with Cork Institute of Technology are entitled to avail of facilities and sports clubs on the main campus in Bishopstown. There are very active diving and sailing clubs which use the facilities at NMCI, as well as soccer and rugby clubs.

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) is a focal point for students outside the classroom environment. Here students can use the open access computers, read at individual study spaces and browse in the library.

Currently the library has a book stock of approximately 4,000 volumes and this collection will be developed on an ongoing basis with support from Cork Institute of Technology and the Irish Naval Service as well as donations of funds and materials from external organisations. The library has a maritime focus and subjects covered range from law, meteorology and marine engineering to seamanship and navigation.

As a constituent college of Cork Institute of Technology, NMCI students can request materials from other CIT Libraries and can access online databases subscribed to by CIT Library.

Student Accommodation

There is purpose built student accommodation available locally at Ferryview Park in Ringaskiddy which is approximately 10 minutes walk from NMCI. It is suitable for long stay and short stay accommodation requirements. For further information please view www.ferryviewpark.com.

Irish Naval Service students have accommodation provided on the Naval Base in Haulbowline.