# SHIPPING AGENT



### Main duties and responsibilities

The shipping agent acts as the representative of the shipowner or the charterer with the local authorities. He/she is responsible for ensuring that all of the vessel's needs during its stopover in the port are met efficiently and at a lower cost. He/she prepares and finalizes the documentation and obtains the necessary authorizations for cargo consignment, customs clearing or other purposes. However, the agent's work may also extend to procurement, crew relief and cargo routing logistics. Many shipping agencies also offer marine brokerage services, which includes the commercial transactions between the carrier and the shipper.

#### **Educational or occupational background**

A college or university diploma in a field associated with transportation, logistics or administration.

Knowledge of English is essential.

#### Educational institutions or training centres in Québec

The Institut maritime du Québec à Rimouski offers college programs in navigation, marine mechanical engineering and transportation logistics.

Cégeps André-Laurendeau, François-Xavier-Garneau, Lionel-Groux and de Lévis-Lauzon offer a college program in transportation logistics.

## **Career possibilities**

Agents work for various private shipping agencies and international shipping lines.

### **Essential qualifications and interests**

- Customer focus
- Flexibility
- Teamwork skills
- Interest in geography
- Well-organized
- Resourcefulness and ability to work under pressure

Income range: \$35,000 to \$60,000

#### For more information

www.csmoim.qc.ca
www.lesaint-laurent.com
www.imq.qc.ca
www.shipfed.ca (for the list of shipping agencies in Québec and Eastern Canada)

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