



NAVIGATION OFFICER

Main tasks and duties

Navigation Officers direct operations on passenger and cargo ships in Canada and abroad. They are responsible for safety on board and for planning ships' navigation routes. They coordinate and oversee deckhands' activities and supervise cargo loading and unloading.

Academic training or professional development

Depending on the ship type and navigation area, candidates may complete a college program with practical training in navigation at a recognized marine institute leading to initial officer certification. They may also accumulate the seetime required as a Deckhand or Helsman, complete ongoing training, and pass the compulsory Transport Canada exams for each officer certification level.

Navigation Officers can rise in the ranks as follows: Watchkeeping Mate, First Mate, Ship Captain. They must complete each training phase, accumulate the required seetime and obtain certification for the different ranks before becoming Ship Captain.

Educational institutions and training centres in Québec

The Institut maritime du Québec in Rimouski offers a college study program in navigation.

Career opportunities

- Navigation Officer (Unlimited or Domestic)
- Captain (Unlimited or Domestic)
- Ship's Pilot
- Marine Expert
- Marine Inspector
- Management position in marine company

Essential qualities and interests

- Interest in working at sea
- Aptitude for sciences
- Ability to analyze and synthesize
- Ability to work under pressure
- Teamwork capabilities
- Leadership

Average annual income: \$50 000 to \$120 000

Salary increases significantly as Navigation Officers rise in rank. They generally work 6 to 9 months/year.

For more information

www.csmoim.qc.ca
www.lesaint-laurent.com
www.groupeledesgagnes.com

www.tc.gc.ca
www.imq.qc.ca

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