

GEORGIAN

YOUR COLLEGE · YOUR FUTURE

GREAT LAKES INTERNATIONAL MARINE TRAINING CENTRE

This letter is designed to help prospective students understand the career, lifestyle and education one would expect in choosing to come to Georgian College's cadet training program.

Georgian College is the top supplier of Deck and Engineer Officers to the Great Lakes shipping industry. Our training leads to certification that is recognized world wide.

Education and Training at Georgian College

- The college offers a three year Co-operative cadet training program combining the training listed below and Co-op sea time. A Diploma is granted to graduates who successfully complete the required courses and Co-op sea time. Although some international Co-ops may be available our primary source of Co-op sea time is aboard vessels sailing the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence Seaway. This should not limit the international opportunities upon graduation.
- Marine Emergency Duties Training (MED's) (STCW Basic Safety, Proficiency in Survival Craft, Advanced Fire Fighting , Marine First Aid courses)
- Students learn to fight fires, operate lifeboats and rafts, and care for injured personnel
- Simulated Electronic Navigation and Engineering courses delivered on our state of the art simulators
 - Students learn to navigate ships or operate marine engines in the safety of an electronic environment.
- Academic courses developed to educate the students to the level of Captain or Chief Engineer.
 - Math, Physics, Chemistry, Communications, Engineering, Navigation, Seamanship, Meteorology, Thermodynamics and Naval Architecture to list a few.
- The program is intensive. Students can expect to spend up to 30 hours per week in classes and as many hours studying.
 - For a complete list please see the Program Outline on the Georgian College Website [Georgian College Academic Information - Academic Programs of Study](http://www.georgianc.on.ca/academics/programs/index.php?catid=8#8)
- Program attendance policy requires 90% attendance for all courses
- The College's Student Services department is available for students who require special accommodations or extra help with studies. Students may have questions or concerns about lifestyle issues with this career and are encouraged to feel comfortable discussing this with their faculty and counselling services who have personal and professional experience and insights to assist with these concerns.

Deck Officer Profile

Appeals to persons who want a career with a balance between technical expertise in navigation and practical seamanship; persons who enjoy taking responsibility, working with people in a physically active environment, and have ability to focus on detailed administrative duties.

- Expect extended periods away from home and family (up to 8 months as a deck cadet)
- Deck officers (also Navigation Officer, Watch Officer) are responsible, under the direction of the Captain, for the safe conduct of the vessel while at sea and in port.
- Stand bridge watches navigating the vessel safely while ensuring all domestic and international regulations are followed with regard to safety and environmental laws and regulations.
- Direct unlicensed personnel in duties concerning the conduct and maintenance of the vessel and its cargo.

Engineer Officer Profile

Appeals to persons who want a career with a balance between technical expertise in engineering and hands on mechanical work; persons who enjoy taking responsibility, working with people in a physically active environment, and have ability to focus on detailed administrative duties.

- Expect extended periods away from home and family (up to 4 months as engine cadet)
- Engineer officers are responsible, under the direction of the Chief Engineer for the safe maintenance and operation of the ship and its machinery while at sea and in port.
- Stand engine watches, monitoring the condition and performance of the vessel's diesel or steam propulsion, electrical and cargo handling machinery while ensuring all domestic and international regulations are followed with regard to safety and environmental laws and regulations.
- Direct unlicensed personnel in duties concerning the conduct and maintenance of the machinery and machinery spaces.

Career Opportunities as a Ship's Officer

- Deck officers can progress up the ranks from 3rd officer to 2nd officer to Chief Officer and on to Captain.
- Engineer officers can progress up the ranks from 4th engineer to 3rd engineer to 2nd engineer and to Chief Engineer.
- As more experience is gained and higher licenses are obtained by the officer, more responsibility and the challenges that go with that responsibility are available.
- With more responsibility comes greater salary.
- Ship's Officers work on various types of vessels including ferries, bulk carriers, tankers, container ships, Coast Guard vessels, cruise ships, offshore, supply vessels, and tugs.

Other Marine Careers

- Deck Officers, after additional experience and training, are currently working as Harbour Pilots, Ice Pilots, Mooring Masters, oil rig workers in the offshore oil and gas industry, hydroelectric

operators, college professors, superintendents, VP's and CEOs for shipping and cargo companies, marine surveyors and marine lawyers.

- Engineer Officers, after additional experience and training, are currently working as oil rig workers in the offshore oil and gas industry, stationary engineers in hospitals and large factories, hydroelectric operators, college professors, superintendents and technical directors, VPs, and CEOs of shipping and cargo companies.

Educational Pathways after Graduation:

- The Marine Program has an articulation agreement with Memorial University in Newfoundland that allows graduates of Georgian College's Marine Programs to complete a Bachelor of Maritime Studies Degree with an additional 1 year of studies in St. John's.

Education and Training while on Co-op Sea Terms on Board Various Types of Vessels.

Your Co-op Work Experience

- Georgian's placement rate is very high because of the strong support received from our partners in the Canadian shipping industry. Co-op placements are not guaranteed, but co-op is a requirement to graduate.
- Co-op employers review the students' resumes, conduct interviews at the College and offer employment to suitable candidates.
- Most Georgian cadets complete their co-op work terms on the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway.
- Most co-op placements are paid (most companies pay \$1000 per month for Work Term 1, \$1250 per month for Work Term 2 and \$1500 per month for Work Term 3, room and board is free on board ship)
- Deck Cadets will be expected to assist with deck maintenance, cargo operations and navigation of the vessel. Training as a cadet will lead to the knowledge required to assume the responsibilities of a deck officer once a license is obtained
- Engine Cadets will be expected to assist with engine and auxiliary systems care and maintenance and watch-keeping work. Training as a cadet will lead to the knowledge required to assume the responsibilities of an Engineer Officer once a license is obtained

Qualifying Experience

- All sea time must be spent aboard a Transport Canada approved vessel (over 25 gross registered tonnes (grt) and sailing beyond sheltered waters)
- Marine Navigation cadets require 365 days of sea time, compiled over 3 work terms in order to graduate
- Marine Engineering cadets require 210 days of sea time, compiled over 2 work terms in order to graduate

What to expect on Co-op

- Expect to work hard and “pay your dues”. If you do this, your supervising officers are more likely to provide you with a quality learning experience
- Expect to be away from home for long periods of time. You will be on board for a minimum of 4 months and a maximum of 8 (as a Navigation cadet)
- Expect to be out of touch with family and loved ones. Often there is no internet access and cell phone access is unreliable
- Expect to work approximately 4 hours per day on your log book. This is in addition to your on-duty shifts
- Expect to work shifts. You will be working nights and weekends
- Expect you will encounter some “difficult” people. Just like any other job, there will be people you are working with that you don’t like. Remember that life as a cadet does not necessarily reflect life as an officer. You will also work with some wonderful people who will do their best to help you learn
- Expect drug and alcohol to be tested while on board. The Great Lakes shipping industry has zero tolerance for drugs and alcohol
- Expect an intense, challenging and rewarding living and working experience while on-board ship. This is not just a job, it is a lifestyle choice

Co-op requirements and documentation

- Birth Certificate. (You must turn 18 prior to the 1st co-op sea term)
- Transport Canada Marine Medical (must be renewed every two years)
 - Not required to enter the program but this is required to sail on a vessel so applicants are strongly advised to pass a medical prior to entering the program. A list of Designated Physicians can be found at [Transport Canada - Marine Medical Examiners](http://www.tc.gc.ca/mme/en/MMESearch.asp?x_lang=e)
http://www.tc.gc.ca/mme/en/MMESearch.asp?x_lang=e
- Transport Canada Discharge Book and Record of Sea Service (the Co-op office will help you obtain this document)
- Canadian passport or Permanent Resident card plus D1 Visa
 - Most employers require their vessels to enter the United States, so all cadets must be eligible to enter the US. If you have a criminal record please contact our Marine Co-op representative for advice.

Transport Canada Licenses:

- Transport Canada sets standards for training and certification based on both international and domestic requirements.
- Georgian College is approved by Transport Canada to deliver education and training to cadets.
- Upon successful completion of the education and Co-op training, students are required to write Transport Canada examinations for either a Watchkeeping Mate Certificate for navigators or a 4th Class Engineer Certificate for engineers.

- Georgian College can provide the students many exemptions for Transport Canada Exams provided marks of 70% or higher are maintained on certain subjects.
- The licenses issued by Transport Canada are internationally recognized and qualify the holders to work on many different ships anywhere in the world.

Additional Costs to Students Over and Above Tuition and Housing:

- Marine Engineering Technology (only)
 - Toolkit costs approximately \$300.00
 - Coveralls cost approximately \$60.00
- Marine Navigation Technology (only)
 - Chartwork tools cost (\$50.00)
- Additional costs for both Marine Engineering Technology and Marine Navigation Technology
 - Approximately \$1000 for text books over 3 years
 - Parking \$130 per semester
 - Transport Canada Simulator exam cost \$58.30
 - Steel-toed boots cost approximately \$125.00
 - Pre-Co-op Transport Canada Marine Medical cost \$125.00
 - Transport Canada Discharge Book/Record of Sea Service \$21.20
 - Cost of obtaining a US D-1 visa if student is a permanent resident of Canada
 - Marine Emergency Duties Courses (MED's) are included in tuition saving you \$3000. You are required to cover your own transportation, accommodation and food. Allow up to \$800
The Marine Emergency Duty training facility is in Port Colborne, ON
- The following MED courses will have to be taken on weekends within the 3 yr program.
 - STCW Basic Safety Training – 2 nights' accommodation
 - Proficiency in Survival Craft – 3 nights' accommodation
 - Advanced Fire Fighting – 3 nights' accommodation

Owen Sound

A city of approximately 25000 people located on the shores of Georgian Bay. It has a proud marine heritage, including a marine museum, and is still an active port today. Typical of small towns in rural Ontario, there is a limited amount of night life activity. Students used to the hustle of the “big city” may experience an adjustment period, but there are lots of things to do if they look around.

In the winter months, hockey fans might wish to attend the OHL Owen Sound Attack or the Owen Sound Greys junior hockey games. Students with a love of the outdoors will enjoy the proximity to down-hill skiing and boarding (40 minutes to Blue Mountain or Talisman) and local cross country skiing and snow shoeing trails. There are also a number of local snowmobile trails. Ice fishing opportunities abound on the many local lakes and, most years, on Georgian Bay itself.

During the summer term, the MET students can enjoy the local beaches at Kelso and Hibou or drive to one of the world's longest freshwater sand beaches (30 minutes to Sauble, or 50 minutes to Wasaga). Many local rivers also offer excellent fishing, canoeing and kayaking opportunities.

Summer, Spring and Fall offer shore or boat fishing on the bay or smaller lakes, golfing on the many area golf courses, not to mention hiking the famous Bruce Trail along the Niagara Escarpment from where it passes through town. There are also several Provincial and National parks (including Fathom Five, Canada's first national marine and underwater park) within a 45 minute drive north towards Tobermory.

The city also has an active "small town" cultural life including a little theatre group, the Tom Thompson art gallery and an excellent symphony orchestra.

Browse the city website (<http://www.tourism.owensound.ca/index.php>) to find out more about Owen Sound.