



Ordinary Seaman Advancement Program

MERIT PROMOTION OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement #	27-163/165-01MPOC		
Title, Series, Grade, (Code):	Ordinary Seaman(W)&(D) WM 9928-07		
Base Salary:	\$48,525 Per annum (163 only) \$47,637 Per annum (165 only)		
Opening Date:	October 1, 2026	Closing Date:	Open Continuous with Periodic Cut-offs
Location:	Military Sealift Command (MSC) Vessels Worldwide		
Who May Apply:	<p>Due to critical shortages in this rating, applications will receive immediate consideration upon receipt. Selections will be made until critical shortages no longer exist. Open to all permanent qualified Military Sealift Command (MSC) Civil Service Mariner (CIVMAR) employees. Applicants, who previously applied under POA 26-163/165-01MPOC, must reapply, if they wish to be considered for this position.</p>		
Program Purpose:	<p>This program is designed to bring experienced personnel and previous apprentice participants into the program for up to 36 months of being mentored by the Civilian Mariner staff. The successful candidates would serve as Ordinary Seaman in the Deck Department aboard all classes of MSC civil service crewed ships, both at sea and in port.</p> <p>Selected candidates will be placed in Ordinary Seaman Advancement Program (OSAP) for on-the-job training and work experience. Candidates will receive training including Rating Forming Part of Navigational Watch (RFPNW), Able Seaman in Lieu Course, and Lifeboat in Lieu Course and up to 120 Navigational Watches.</p> <p>Candidate must sign a 36-month service agreement and required to obtain the Merchant Marine Credential (MMC) endorsed as Able Seaman Unlimited, Able Seafarer Deck, and RFPNW within three years from the date of the signed OSAP agreement. Upon completion of program requirements participant will become eligible for consideration for permanent promotion from Ordinary Seaman to Able Seaman (AB). Selection will be contingent on the successful completion of an administrative review (medical, security, discipline, etc.), and a review of supervisory evaluations and input regarding performance and readiness for permanent promotion to AB. An authorized AB position must be available in order for the promotion to be effected.</p>		

	<p>Failure to comply with the program requirements within the allotted time may result in termination from employment.</p>
Duties:	<p>The Ordinary Seaman is a Civil Service Mariner (CIVMAR) employed by the Navy to serve the Military Sealift Command (MSC) onboard naval auxiliaries and hybrid-manned warships worldwide, in peace and war. MSC exists to support the joint warfighter across the full spectrum of military operations. MSC provides on time logistics, strategic sealift, as well as specialized missions anywhere in the world, in contested or uncontested environments.</p> <p>The Ordinary Seaman will perform and/or aid other crewmembers in work pertaining to general maintenance, repair, sanitation, and upkeep of material, equipment, and areas that are the responsibility of the Deck Department. General maintenance consists of, but is not limited to: chipping, scaling, scraping, priming, painting, and or cleaning of the ship's hull, decks, superstructure, cargo gear, smokestack, rescue boats, lifeboats and or life rafts, emergency and damage control gear, and working aloft. Further, the incumbent will become familiar with general nautical terminology, boxing the compass, navigational running lights, rules of the road, including day shapes, sound signals and all distress signals. The Ordinary Seaman will also be instructed and assigned to perform traditional shipboard marlinespike seamanship duties that include the splicing of wire rope, as well as synthetic and natural fiber lines, reaving and unreaving blocks and falls, overhauling and maintaining both standing and running rigging, cargo loading, discharging, sounding, shoring, lashing, and rigging cargo nets, slings, ladders, boat fenders, tricing pendants and gangways. The Ordinary Seaman will also be instructed and assigned to perform general deck sanitation duties. This includes sweeping, scrubbing, sougeeing and conducting wash downs in general, and the sorting and proper disposal of trash and garbage.</p> <p>Must be eligible to have access to, handle and be qualified in small arms in accordance with OPNAVINST 3591.1.</p> <p>Everything in this Position Description is considered to be an essential function of this position. Performs all other duties as assigned.</p>

<p>Minimum Eligibility Requirements:</p>	<p>1. Must possess current and valid:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ordinary Seaman (W) (163)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United States Coast Guard (USCG) Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) endorsed as Seafarer (formerly Ordinary Seaman) or above. • USCG Medical Certification w/o limitations. • Rating Forming Part of a Navigational Watch (RFPNW) <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ordinary Seaman (D) (165)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United States Coast Guard (USCG) Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) endorsed as Seafarer (formerly Ordinary Seaman) or above. • USCG Medical Certification w/o limitations. <p>NOTE: You must submit copy of your Medical Certificate with application package.</p> <p>COPIES OF CERTIFICATES AND DOCUMENTS ARE NOT REQUIRED BUT ARE TO BE LISTED ON THE MSC PROMOTION APPLICATION FORM UNLESS DOCUMENTATION IS SUPPORTING COMMERCIAL EXPERIENCE OTHER THAN MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND EXPERIENCE.</p>
<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p>	<p>Applicants who meet the Minimum Eligibility Requirements described above will be further evaluated. Documented knowledge, skills, and abilities, education, training, and awards contained in the application package and resume will be reviewed and rated to determine the degree to which applicants possess the required knowledge, skills, and abilities listed below that are essential to perform the duties and responsibilities of the position for which applicants are being considered.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to perform general maintenance and repair on deck equipment. 2. Knowledge of Shipboard Safety, including lifesaving and firefighting equipment, methods and techniques. 3. Knowledge of cargo operations, including such items as dry stores, munitions, petroleum products, and helicopter operations (VERTREP). 4. Ability to operate UNREP gear and equipment (winches, cranes, booms, Material Handling Equipment (MHE) etc).

	<p>To earn the highest rating possible, you are encouraged to submit detailed information of the knowledge, skills, and abilities listed above. Related MSC, military, and/or commercial experience, etc., will also be part of the rating process.</p>
Conditions of Employment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All MSC Civil Service Marine positions are subject to random drug urinalysis testing and require participation in vaccine immunization program. As the laws for marijuana usage become legal for some states, it is still illegal at the Federal level and will have the same impact on suitability and security as it did before. In order to be permanently promoted for this position, the selectee must: • Meet the medical dental and mental requirements, • You will be required as a condition of employment to obtain and maintain a U.S. Special Issuance Passport (also referred to as an official or maroon passport). • A CIVMAR who occupies this rating or position while sailing on MSC Government Owned, Government Operated (GOGO) vessels is required to use Fall Protection Arrest System (FPAS) safety equipment in order to carry out essential functions of their rating or position. Therefore, the incumbent is required to maintain a mass body weight of no more than 295 Pounds, • Successfully complete the training requirements, • Be clear of any adverse or disciplinary action, • Be able to obtain and maintain the appropriate security clearances, • Be ready, willing, and able to physically perform the duty of this position worldwide at all times, • Be ready, willing, and able to, work in shipboard environmental conditions, and wear protective equipment worldwide at all times, and • Have overall "Good" or above evaluation ratings. • Must be eligible to have access to, handle and be qualified in small arms in accordance with OPNAVINST 3591.1.
How to Apply:	<p>ALL documents MUST be postmarked by the cut off or closing date of this announcement (Eastern Standard Time). MSC is not responsible for obtaining documents to include in your package.</p> <p>1. Application packages will not contain national security classified information. Inclusion of classified information is a security violation and WILL disqualify an application from consideration and appropriate administrative or disciplinary action, up to and</p>

including removal, **WILL** be taken. Depending on the severity of the security violation, it may be considered a violation of U.S. criminal law under United States Code Title 18 or Title 50, and appropriate action taken. Should there be a desire to include information that was cited in a Bravo Zulu message regarding performance, the applicant can cite the message DTG and include pertinent UNCLASSIFIED comments in their resume or elsewhere in the application. No change from previous guidance.

2. In order to preclude any Privacy Act, HIPAA or other like violations, applications shall not include date of birth, full Social Security Number, references to religion, national origin, sex, race, etc., photographs, CD's, news clippings or medical information/records. With regard to news clippings, articles, or the like - if these documents contain information, experience or accomplishments that are in direct relation to the position that the applicant is applying for, he/she may reference them with a summarized explanatory note. Where and how to do that is left to the applicant's discretion. No change from previous guidance.

3. Application packages are to be one-sided and shall not exceed 35 pages (evaluations are excluded from this page limitation). Application packages shall not be stapled, taped, spiral bound, or placed in three ring binders. A paper clip, binder clip, or folder is recommended. Standard business format and font, to the extent practicable (i.e. Courier New, 12 pitch), is recommended. Application packages that exceed the page limitation WILL NOT be considered. No change from previous guidance.

4. As noted above, application packages **SHALL NOT** exceed 35 one-sided pages. The following documents are required and are to be packaged in the following order:

a. Completed MSC Promotion Application.

b. Resume. All resumes must show sufficient experience and/or education, knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the duties of the specific position for which applicants are being considered in order to receive maximum credit. Resumes shall include the following information:

(1) Full name.

(2) Highest CIVMAR permanent position held and

inclusive dates.

(3) Relevant work experience within the last 5 years including paid and non paid public or private sector work experience related to the job for which applying.

(4) Colleges or universities name, city, and state (with zip code), major(s), type and year of any degree received (if no degree, show total credits earned and indicate whether semester or quarter hour).

c. Summary of ship assignments including position held and dates assigned for at least the last five (5) years. However, if this information is already contained in the resume it is not necessary to duplicate it.

d. Job related training courses (list courses with title and date completed only). Do not submit copies of course completion certificates.

e. Job related honors, awards, and special accomplishments; for example, Military, Government, or recognized professional organizations related to the maritime field and performance awards (give date, type, and short synopsis of accomplishment but do not send documents).

f. Last five (5) years of evaluations signed by supervisory chain-of-command this can include MAP Evaluations. Note that MAP evaluations submitted will be used to validate the MYMSC database and will be extracted from the "package" once the MAP MYMSC data is identified. Evaluations do not count against the 35 page limitation.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to request/review their MAP history from the MAP repository prior to submitting their application. It cannot be stressed strongly enough that the applicant should try to ensure that there are no missing MAP evaluations from their record. Request MAP Overview reports from the following address: MSC_HR_MAP_INBOX@us.navy.mil.

5. Except as otherwise stated in the advisory and the specific POA to which the applicant is responding, the overall score will be reduced if the applicant fails to submit required information according to the instructions contained in the advisory or POA.

6. Failure to submit required information to show that you meet the minimum qualifications as outlined in the POA will result in the applicant being found ineligible.

	<p>7. All applications and supporting documents will become the property of MSC and will not be returned to the applicant once submitted. Applicants are encouraged to make copies prior to submission.</p> <p>8. Any questions may be directed to the MSC Employment Division via email at MSC_POAInbox@us.navy.mil. Inquiry responses will be provided within 2 business days.</p>
How To Contact Us:	<p>Completed application packages will be accepted via Regular mail, FedEx, Email, Fax, and hand-delivered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mail completed packages to: Military Sealift Command Attn: Marine Employment Division N11B2 Bldg SP-64, 471 East C Street Norfolk, VA 23511-2419 • Fax completed packages to the MSC Marine Employment Division at (757) 443-3094. • Email packages to: MSC_POAInbox@us.navy.mil. (Subject line of email should contain the announcement number and position title.) • Hand Deliver completed packages to the MSC Marine Employment Division, Bldg SP-312, 581 A Street, Norfolk, VA 23511
NOTE:	<p>FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED INFORMATION REQUESTED FOR THIS POSITION WILL ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR ELIGIBILITY.</p> <p>Federal job applicants who make a false statement in any part of the application could be turned down for the job; fired after beginning work; or subject to fine, imprisonment (U.S. Code, title 18, section 1001), or other disciplinary action.</p>
MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.	<p>All applicants meeting minimum qualifications will receive consideration without regard to age, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, lawful political affiliation, non-disqualifying disability, marital status, ethnicity, other personal condition unrelated to the applicant's basic ability to perform satisfactory. Please visit https://civmar.sealiftcommand.com/eeo for more information. The agency provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities, where appropriate. Determinations of whether an accommodation is appropriate shall be made by the agency as soon as practicable, after the initial application process and shall be made with regard to all applicable statutes and regulations. If assistance is required to complete the application process, interested applicants should send an email to MSC_POAInbox@us.navy.mil.and/or refer to the "How to Apply" section of this announcement.</p>

