

EARNINGS:

2001 Wages for Ship Captains

	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
National	\$23.30	\$48,450

- Nationally, half of the people employed in this group earn between \$34,070 and \$59,160



Sources:

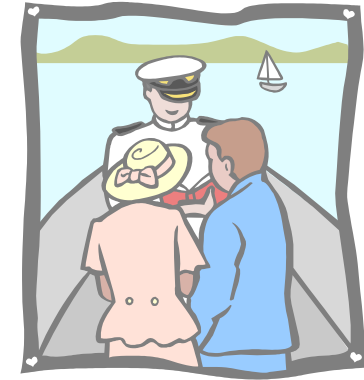
http://icpac.indiana.edu/careers/career_profiles/100450.xml.print

<http://dothr.ost.dot.gov/careers/shipcapt.htm>

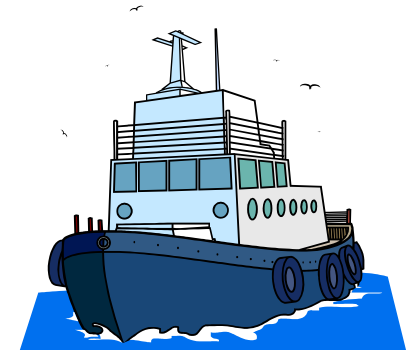
http://jobprofiles.monster.com/content/job_content/JC_ConstructionMiningandTrades/JS

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/print/ocos247.htm>

Ship Captain



IS THIS A POSSIBLE CAREER FOR YOU?



NATURE OF WORK:

Holding the highest ranked position, a Ship Captain's obligation is to conduct all operations aboard a vessel. Some of their most important jobs include, setting the course and speed, avoiding all hazards, determining the ship's position using navigational aids, celestial observations, and charts. They also supervise the work of other officers and crewmembers. Captains ensure that the vessel is in proper working condition, and oversees the loading and discharge of passengers and goods. These are just a few examples of what a Captain's duties entail; the responsibilities of the job are intense and require a lot of dedication and hard work.

QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED/ TRAINING/ EDUCATION:

- Nautical knowledge and navigation skills are essential
- Experience is beneficial, such as previous apprenticeships
- Must be licensed by the US Coast Guard
- Must pass all qualifications
- Physically and mentally demanding tasks

- Most officers graduate from one of the following institutions with a bachelors of science degree:
 - US Coast Guard Academy
 - US Naval Academy
 - US Merchant Marine Academy
 - 3 academies are located on the East Coast:
 - Maine,
 - Massachusetts, and
 - New York
 - 3 other academies are located in:
 - Michigan,
 - Texas, and
 - California
- Classes in English, math, and science are helpful for preparing to attend one of the academies



JOB OUTLOOK:

There are not as many job openings for ship captains as there are for other transportation careers. This occupation contains a small amount of employees in it. Many employers that hire captains to work for their company include ones that deliver cargo and passengers, as well as towing companies. There are opportunities to advance within this occupation.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT:

This type of occupation employs employees captains to work on every type of waterway, including; oceans, lakes, harbors, rivers, and canals. Some opportunities are also available to work on international waters as well.