



## Wanna be a Seaman?

Would you like to anchor, berth and refuel a huge Coast Guard vessel? Would you like to speed across Atlantic waters in a fast rescue craft (FRC) to participate in offshore fisheries patrol or search and rescue missions? Do you enjoy working with your hands? Can you lift and haul heavy loads? Then, we may have the job for you!

### What do they do?

Seamen work on deck under the guidance of the ship's boatswain or leading seaman (also known as quartermaster) and take care of ship maintenance and cleanliness. They also help with steering, lookout, boat work and berthing of the vessel.

Seamen perform general maintenance work so that the deck department is clean, safe and operational. More specifically, seamen repair and paint decks, hulls, superstructure and interior spaces of vessels; operate cargo gear and deck machinery; rig booms; handle lines during docking, moving and towing operations; mend lines and canvas; stand lookout, security and wheel watches; and lift, place and service buoys onboard the fleet's buoy tenders.

Seamen also launch, staff and retrieve lifeboats and surf boats; load, stow, and off-load supplies and cargo; assist in the maintenance and servicing of aids to navigation; help anchor, berth, un-berth, and refuel the vessel; assist with search and rescue operations and icebreaking operations; and assist in emergency drills and other duties concerned with the safety of the ship.

### How do I become a Seaman?

If you are interested in becoming a seaman, you will need a Bridge Watchman Certificate or an Able-Bodied Seaman Certificate or higher (i.e. – Watchkeeping Mate Unrestricted Certificate), which may be obtained by pursuing a Bridge Watch program or Nautical Science diploma program. Or, you can train to be a ship's officer through the Coast Guard College in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Certification must be endorsed by Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping 95 (STCW 95). Applicants must possess a valid seagoing medical.

Like all positions on Coast Guard vessels, you will require a Marine Emergency Duties (MED) certificate (MED A1, B1, B2), a valid medical certificate and a security clearance.

Candidates will also be invited to write an exam that demonstrates their abilities in seamanship, safety, and watchkeeping.

Individuals interested in the Officer Cadet Training Program (OCTP) offered at the Canadian Coast Guard College should visit the College website for more information at [www.cgc.gc.ca](http://www.cgc.gc.ca).

Openings for jobs with the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) are advertised through the Public Service Commission (PSC) website at [www.jobs.gc.ca](http://www.jobs.gc.ca).

## spotlight on...



### Terri Lynn George, Seaman, *CCGS Henry Larsen*

*Terri Lynn is the only sea-going person in her family. She became interested in going to sea through her involvement with the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets, with whom she was an active member for six years.*

*"One of the things I love about working with the Coast Guard is meeting so many wonderful people. There are such a wide variety of people working with me that it's easy to find something that you like about each one. The summers are great. There are days on the Grand Banks that there are dolphins and whales for as far as you can see.*

*In the summer of 2002, I had the chance to meet Governor General Adrienne Clarkson. I was serving as a cadet onboard the CCGS Henry Larsen while the Governor General was conducting a northern tour on the Labrador Coast."*

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