



MAINE AQUACULTURE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM



WHAT IS A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM?

- A paid work experience in which an apprentice gains a specific set of skills through a combination of on-the-job learning/mentorship and supplemental classroom education.
- An industry-vetted and approved program that aligns with industry standards

WHY BECOME AN APPRENTICE?

- Earn progressive wages as your skills and productivity increase - learn while you earn!
- Portable, nationally recognized aquaculture apprenticeship credential
- Mentorship: learn from the experts!
- Networking: meet key people who could open future opportunities

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

- Individuals interested in pursuing a career in aquaculture
- Those who want to earn a paycheck while they learn and gain experience

REQUIREMENTS

- At least 18 years of age
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Able to lift at least 50 lbs and comfortable working on boats and floating structures
- Strong work ethic, mechanical aptitude, and problem solving ability
- Physically capable of performing essential functions of the apprenticeship program with or without reasonable accommodation, and without imposing a threat to the health and safety of themselves and/or others

EXPECTATIONS

- Work 2,000 paid hours for a farm over a span of 1 year, completing specified numbers of hours within certain skill sets, under the direction of skilled workers including:
 - Organizational and safety protocols
 - Vessel and vehicle operation
 - Use and maintenance of tools and equipment
 - Shellfish and seaweed production, management, and health
 - Food safety and regulatory compliance
- Complete the 144-hour aquaculture apprenticeship curriculum through the Maine Community College System



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