



**MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE  
SHIPPING CIRCULAR TO SHIPOWNERS  
NO. 20 OF 2017**

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**Applicable to:** the general shipping community

**UPDATE ON INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE SEAFARING CAREERS:  
SKILLSFUTURE EARN AND LEARN PROGRAMME (ELP) FOR SEAFARING**

*This MPA Shipping Circular supersedes MPA Shipping Circular No. 10 of 2016 (dated 12 April 2016)*

1. This circular provides information on the changes to the SkillsFuture Earn and Learn Programme (ELP) for Maritime (Seafaring Deck Officer) and (Seafaring Marine Engineer) and the Employment Enhancement Programme (EEP). The Tripartite Maritime Manpower Taskforce for Seafarers (TF-Sea)<sup>1</sup>, chaired by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), launched these two programmes on 1 April 2016 to provide Singaporean junior officers with a head start in their seafaring careers and support the companies participating in these programmes.

2. The SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring (managed by Singapore Polytechnic, SP) and EEP (managed by Wavelink Maritime Institute, WMI) provides Singaporean junior officers, who graduated from their institutes, with a well-structured and quality on-the-job training (OJT) sea service programme. This will allow junior officers to be better prepared to attain their CoC Class 2 and CoC Class 1 qualifications, with a view to taking up senior shipboard positions. The junior officer will also be eligible for a sign-on incentive of up to \$5,000 for the successful completion of the programme. Participating companies will be eligible for a grant of up to \$15,000 per junior officer.

**Updates to the SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring and EEP**

3. **EEP subsumed under SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring** – With immediate effect, the EEP will be subsumed under the SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring, with SP as the sole programme manager. Those eligible under the EEP will continue to enjoy the same benefits under the SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring. Under the expanded scope of the SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring, Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents of Singapore eligible for the programme include:

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<sup>1</sup> TF-Sea comprises of various government agencies, unions, and the shipping industry. The taskforce is chaired by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA).

- SP graduates from Diploma in Nautical Studies with CoC Class 3 certification or from Diploma in Marine Engineering with CoC Class 5 certification;
  - WMI graduates from Tripartite Nautical Training Award (TNTA) with CoC Class 3 certification or from Tripartite Engineering Training Award (TETA) with CoC Class 5 certification **(NOW UNDER SKILLSFUTURE ELP)**.
4. **Period of eligibility extended** – With immediate effect, Singaporean junior officers are eligible for the SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring, if they are hired by participating companies within 36 months (previously 12 months) from the date of:
- i. Their graduation from SP or WMI (as stated on the Diploma); or
  - ii. Obtaining their CoC Class 3/5 (as stated on their CoC Class 3/5 certificate); or
  - iii. National Service ORD, whichever is later.
5. More information on the eligibility criteria and incentives for the SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring can be found at the following links:
- [Singapore Polytechnic's ELP for Maritime \(Seafaring Marine Engineer\)](#)
  - [Singapore Polytechnic's ELP for Maritime \(Seafaring Deck Officer\)](#)
  - [Maritime Singapore Connect on SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring](#)
6. Interested parties may also wish to get in touch with the following SP programme managers for SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring:
- Capt Satinder Singh Viridi (Email: [ssviridi@sp.edu.sg](mailto:ssviridi@sp.edu.sg))
  - Mr S Premanathan (Email: [s.prem@sp.edu.sg](mailto:s.prem@sp.edu.sg))
7. The SkillsFuture ELP for Seafaring complements the set of seafaring manpower initiatives that were launched on [25 September 2015](#). This circular should be read together with [Shipping Circular No. 26 of 2015 \(22 October 2015 "New Initiatives to Promote Seafaring Careers"\)](#).
8. Any queries regarding this circular may be directed to the Seafarers Management Department (Email: [TF\\_Sea@mpa.gov.sg](mailto:TF_Sea@mpa.gov.sg); Tel: +65 6375 6224).

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