

# NEWSLETTER

April 2026



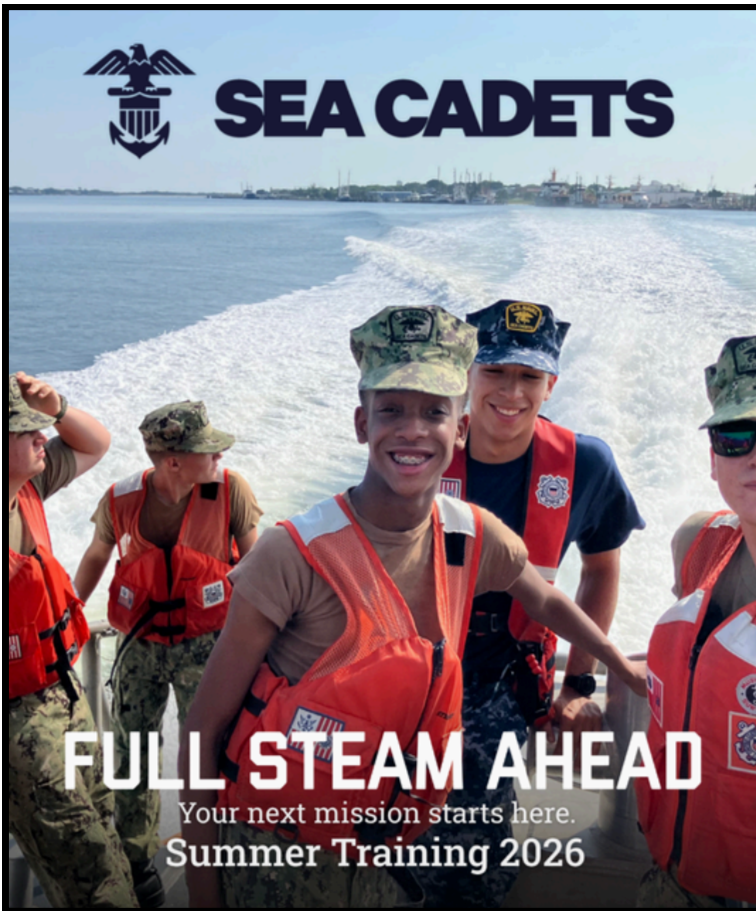
**TRAINING**  
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## Register Now for Summer Trainings!

1. Quarterdeck (log into [www.seacadets.org](http://www.seacadets.org))
2. Click on Find Trainings



Families can also [apply for Financial Assistance](#) on their Quarterdeck landing page.



**We're sharing a shorter, mid-month edition of our monthly newsletter.**

### What's Inside

Summer Trainings Catalog & Registration	pg 1
Assistance for families to get cadets to training	pg 2
New Volunteer Courses & Annual Surveys	pg 3
Trainings on the Water & Swim Qualifications	pg 4
Trades Trainings & Merchant Mariner Trainings	pg 5

### Important Dates

Deadline to submit senior baby photos.....	18 APR
CPO Boards.....	18 APR
Merchant Mariner Credentialing Last Meeting.....	19 APR
Sea Cadet National Council Leadership Meeting.....	19 APR

**Browse our new Summer 2026 Training Catalog!**

**You can view it now by clicking [here.](#)**

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## TEAMWORK IN ACTION:

### Pulling together to support families and get cadets to training

Sea Cadet training changes lives. Together, we see cadets gain life skills, confidence, and real-world experience unlike any other program. In today's challenging economy, we know families are balancing a lot. We want to partner with you to help make training opportunities as accessible as possible. Here are several ways headquarters is working to support families this summer:

- New financial assistance application designed to better support families who need help (see Quarterdeck landing page)
- Lower training registration fees – now \$300 for 5 days, a \$50 savings from winter rates
- Half-price training registration fees for INR embarkments that receive AT credit – just \$150
- Affordable group bus transportation to our largest summer trainings (details coming soon)
- Offering online training this spring to adult volunteers, instead of requiring travel to in-person

We hope you'll take advantage of these expanded resources as we work together to help your cadet attend multiple trainings this summer.



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## NEW Volunteer Online Courses - Coming Next Week

We've heard your call for flexibility in training our volunteers, and we're excited to roll out new volunteer online courses. While funding delays limited our ability to train enough instructors to support in-person sessions this summer, we're excited to introduce a flexible new option for volunteers.

Beginning next week, a series of volunteer courses will be released in Polaris. Instead of spending 6–8 hours attending an in-person OPD, volunteers will be able to complete roughly the same amount of training **through online courses**—broken into segments that can be completed at whatever pace works best for their schedules.

These courses will be available to all volunteers, giving anyone interested the opportunity to build their knowledge and skills. The content has been thoughtfully developed to support volunteer success both at the unit level and during trainings.

Volunteers who have **already completed OPD 101 or V1** and would like to serve as Escort Officers will need to complete these online courses:

- Volunteer Code of Conduct
- V-2 Escort Officer Orientation

Volunteers who have **not yet completed OPD 101 or V1** will need to complete these online courses:

- Volunteer Code of Conduct
- V-1 Volunteer Orientation Course, Part 1
- V-2 Escort Officer Orientation

To support volunteers as they complete the courses, HQ will offer optional live virtual Q&A sessions in early May, providing an opportunity to ask questions and get clarification. A separate announcement will be sent next.

## Annual Surveys Your Feedback Matters!

Volunteers and cadets will see an annual survey link on their landing page when they log into the Quarterdeck.

Please help us continue to improve the program by responding to this survey by May 15.



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April 2026



## TRAINING ON AND IN THE WATER

**Take advantage of our incredible opportunities at sea!** Be part of history and go afloat on an active-duty U.S. Navy ship during the 2026 International Naval Review. Trainings sail from Naval Station Norfolk to multiple ports, including New Orleans, New York, and Boston. Cadets will have an unparalleled opportunity to experience life at sea.

OPSAIL/INR Embarkments:

**Naval Station Norfolk Port of New Orleans:** May 18-27

**Port of New Orleans to Naval Station Norfolk:** May 31 - June 5

**Naval Station Norfolk to Baltimore:** June 21-24

**Naval Station Norfolk to New York:** June 28 - July 1

**Naval Station Norfolk to New York:** June 29-July 1

**SS John Brown, Baltimore, MD:** June 19-26

Many one-day events, including tours of Navy ships, are also posted.

### SWIM QUALIFICATIONS

Check your trainings carefully.

Swim Qualification requirements for trainings are found at the bottom of each training profile.

Open Homeport within Quarterdeck and go to Forms/Templates to find the Swim Qualification form. The guidance to accompany this form is found under the Unit Resources tab.

Cadets may go to a YMCA, Kroc Center, or other pool with a qualified lifeguard, swim instructor, or rescue swimmer. Your unit CO and RD may also conduct the swim qualification test under the approved guidance.

### TRAINING SIGN-UP

Sign-up for training on the Quarterdeck ([seacadets.org](http://seacadets.org))>Find Trainings. You can sort by state, month, training subject, League Cadet (only) trainings, etc.

### PRE-REQUISITES

Physical Readiness Test (PRT) within the last 6 months

Swim Qualifications (for training on the water) - view training details to confirm what level.

### ESCORT OFFICERS NEEDED

All of our trainings are supported by the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. Need training first? Take our new online courses. (See page 2.)



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## TRAINING MATERIALS

- **STAFF CADET HANDBOOKS (all trainings)**
- **RT HANDBOOKS (RT only).**

Training Groups are responsible for ordering and providing staff cadet handbooks (for all trainings) and RT Handbooks (RT only). Training Groups should order these through Magellan>Promotional Materials. Please allow 30 days for processing and shipping.

Cadets can access these ahead of time to begin preparing for training by logging into Polaris>Reources>Handbooks and Guides.

## Merchant Mariner Training

Merchant Mariner training introduces cadets to the fleet that keeps the Navy supplied around the world.

### SM-VA-2601 & SM-VA-2602

Military Sealift Command Basic offers cadets the opportunity to gain insight into firefighting, damage control, water rescue, ship's reaction force, RAS (Replenishment at Sea) and PFAS training (personal fall arrest systems).

Intermediate training is offered after a cadet has completed the MSC basic training and is looking for Military Sealift Command Training Certificates from their organization. Training spots are limited.

## Participate in the Trades

If you haven't found our trades trainings in 2026, there are several to choose from! From the Culinary trades to the Vehicle Maintenance experience, learn something new

### Trades Training Types:

Culinary Arts, Stewarding

Culinary Arts, Galley Service

Culinary Arts, Professional

Seabee (Basic, Intermediate, Advanced)

Ship Building

Vehicle Maintenance

Some training types also offer NLCC options.

