

MCG COVID-19 REDUNDANCY AND RETRAINING BURSARY

The Maritime Charities Group (MCG) representing 10 major seafaring charities, recognises the significant damage the COVID-19 pandemic has caused to the UK economy affecting British merchant seafarers and is addressing this by launching this targeted fund to help UK Seafarers affected by redundancy or termination of a contract to retrain or upskill. Each bursary is limited to a maximum £500 per application. Funding is available until further notice.

1. The Marine Society are administrators of the fund and will assess all applications according to criteria set by the Maritime Charities Group. Applications will be considered for approval by the Head of Seafarer Learning and Welfare and the outcome confirmed to them within 10 working days of receipt. Applicants may appeal a rejection to the Chairman of the Maritime Charities Group whose decision will be final.
2. Eligibility: Applicants must be British Seafarers, resident in the UK, aged 18 years or older, made redundant, notified of expected redundancy or had a contract terminated since March 2020 or later. We accept applications from all ranks and departments who can demonstrate a planned route back into a maritime-related role, whether seagoing or shore-side. Applicants already in receipt of financial support from the Marine Society will not be eligible.
3. Applicants can self-select whatever training and/or qualifications they feel will help them. This can include generic skills such as interview preparation or CV writing tailored to a maritime industry. Courses can include MCA-approved and STCW refresher qualifications (due to expire within 12 months of submitting an application), maritime-related professional diplomas or ICS qualifications.
4. Requests for related subsistence expenses can also be submitted in line with our Slater Fund expenses policy.
5. The deadline to submit an application has been extended until further notice. Applications will be considered on a first come first served basis until funds are exhausted. We will not grant funding retrospectively – i.e. if the course has already started.
6. We will require documentary evidence of your recent or expected redundancy or termination of contract. Where necessary, we shall ask to see your discharge book as evidence of last sea service completed. We shall not release any funds until we have this evidence.
7. All sections of the form should be completed clearly and in full. The Marine Society is seeking a well thought out retraining plan that will facilitate successful completion. We also need to be assured that the course is relevant to your re-employment or professional development.

SECTION A – General particulars

(All details should be completed in BLOCK LETTERS please)

Full name Nationality

Date of birth // Rank/Rating

Discharge book no. National Insurance no.

Please provide a copy of your passport and CV

SECTION B – Permanent address (must be UK resident)

Home

Postcode Email

Telephone no Mobile

Temp Lodgings (if applicable)

Postcode Telephone no

Employer Present Last (tick as appropriate)

Address

Postcode Telephone no

SECTION C – Financial assistance requested

1. College/training provider to be attended

2. Course title (no abbreviations)

3. Length of course (weeks)

4. Course cost

Course start date / /

5. The details of anticipated expenditure and expenses for which I need financial assistance are:

6. I would therefore like to be considered for a bursary (up to £500) of £ to assist with this expenditure.

7. Are you in receipt of out placement as part of your severance package? Yes No

SECTION D – Personal details

1. Annual salary £ before you were made redundant.

2. Next of kin:
Contact details for next of kin

Relationship to next of kin

SECTION E – Personal narrative

Please provide a personal narrative in the space provided. This should include a narrative of your most recent role and future plans, any other relevant information which has not already been included in this application. Maximum 500 words

Please ensure that you submit the following evidence with your application, please tick:

- 1.** Provide full details of the course to be taken in this application.
- 2.** Personal narrative and reason for choosing your course.
- 3.** A copy of your CV.
- 4.** Evidence of your redundancy or last contract terminated.
- 5.** Copy of your Passport.
- 6.** Copy of your expired or soon to expire STCW certificates (if applying for funding to update them).

Signature

Date / /

Financial assistance for UK seafarers

Notes

There are several other funds available to help seafarers advance their professional and academic qualifications:

The Marine Society's Hanway or Worcester Scholarships, interest-free loans and the John William Slater Scholarships.

1. The Hanway Scholarship was created in memory of Jonas Hanway, one of the founders of the Marine Society in 1756 and is primarily aimed at seafarers who need to take qualifications essential to work at sea or to support seafarers with their continuing professional development where there is no support from their employer/ship owner or for those who do not qualify for a Slater Scholarship (see note 4). Scholarships are restricted to British seafarers domiciled in the United Kingdom. Applications for a Hanway Scholarship can be made to the Marine Society at any time. Each application is considered on its merits. The Marine Society's decision is final and the charity is under no obligation to give reasons for that decision.
2. The Marine Society's Worcester Scholarships are primarily aimed at the qualified mariner who wishes to gain a higher academic qualification in the maritime field – such as a BEng (Hons) or BSc(Hons) in Maritime Operations or Marine Engineering – which would lead on to a continued career in the maritime industry. In certain special circumstances, a Worcester Scholarship may be awarded to a seafarer for a higher professional qualification where there is no support from their employer/ship owner, or for those who are overqualified for a Slater Scholarship (see note 4). Scholarships are restricted to British seafarers domiciled in the United Kingdom. Applications for a Worcester Scholarship can be made to the Marine Society at any time. Each application is considered on its merits. The Marine Society's decision is final and the charity is under no obligation to give reasons for that decision.
3. The Marine Society also offers interest-free loans to seafarers to supplement their own resources whilst studying at college or attending courses necessary for their employment or advancement. These loans are paid in convenient instalments and become repayable over a period of 24 months to begin no later than two months after the commencement of the course. As with the scholarships, loans are only granted for courses directly related to the maritime sector and are restricted to British seafarers domiciled in the United Kingdom. **(This is no longer available)**
4. The Marine Society, on behalf of Nautilus International, administers the John William Slater Scholarship for Ratings (Deck and Engine) aspiring to qualify for their first Officer of the Watch Certificate of Competency and Electro Technical Officers, yacht and Workboat crew gain STCW certification. About 50 scholarships are granted each year. Applications can be made to the Marine Society at any time. Each application is considered on its merits. Candidates are required to write a short narrative on themselves, their reasons for applying, and provide a reference from a senior officer or their shipping company.
5. The Merchant Navy Training Board is a registered Training Provider for the Government's Support for Maritime Training (SMarT) funding scheme to assist eligible unemployed seafarers wishing to undertake certain approved courses of study. Applications should be made to:
The Merchant Navy Training Provider, Merchant Navy Training Board, UK Chamber of Shipping, 30 Park Street, London SE1 9EQ. E: dstevens@ukchamberofshipping.com.

All applications (Hanway, Worcester and JW Slater Scholarships) should be sent to:

Head of Seafarer Learning and Welfare, Marine Society,
200b Lambeth Road, London SE1 7JW

E: crockson@ms-sc.org T: 020 7654 7029/50