

# APPLICATION FOR AN INTEREST-FREE LOAN FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. The Marine Society may offer, subject to demonstrated need, interest free loans to British seafarers domiciled in the UK to help meet the costs of college fees and subsistence whilst undertaking a course for professional advancement.
2. Loans should be applied for at least one month prior to the start of the course. It not policy to grant loans retrospectively – i.e. if the course has already started or been paid for.
3. All sections of this form should be completed clearly and in full.
4. We shall require documentary evidence from the course provider that you are starting the course on the date agreed. We shall not release any funds until we have this evidence.
5. The Marine Society is seeking a well thought out financial plan that will facilitate successful completion. We also need to be assured that the course is relevant to the applicant's professional development and/or is required to remain within the maritime industry and that other means of funding it have been explored.
6. When a loan has been approved, the applicant will be sent a letter together with a Banker's Order form which must be returned to us. Repayment of loans will begin no later than two months after the start of the course. Loans under £480 may be repaid by monthly instalments of a minimum of £20 by Banker's Order beginning on a date to be agreed. In cases of loans of £500 or over the repayment will be a minimum of £50 monthly. The repayment period may not be more than 24 months. The Marine Society will not accept any bills or make loans/grants until the Banker's Order, correctly completed, has been returned and accepted.

## 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.

Passport no.  Please provide a copy of your passport

## SECTION B – Address

Home

Postcode  Email

Telephone no  Mobile

Lodgings (if applicable)

Postcode  Telephone no

Shipping company Present  Last  (tick as appropriate)

Address

Postcode  Telephone no

**SECTION C – Reasons for seeking assistance**

- Establishment to be attended
- Course title (no abbreviations)
- Length of course (weeks)   
Date of joining / /
- The details of anticipated expenditure for which I need financial assistance are:
- I would therefore like a loan of of  £  to meet this expenditure.

**SECTION D – Agreement**

Please provide a copy of a credit reference not more than three months old. You will need to obtain this yourself from either [www.experian.co.uk](http://www.experian.co.uk) (tel. 0844 481 8000) or [www.equifax.co.uk](http://www.equifax.co.uk)

I undertake to repay in full any loan made to me by the Marine Society in monthly instalments of  £  (see page 1, note 6) commencing on   /   /     (to start no later than 2 months after the commencement of the course).

Signature of applicant  Date   /   /

**SECTION E – Personal details**

- Monthly income  £  (after deduction of tax, NI, graduated pensions etc).
- Monthly commitments (i.e. Council Tax, loan repayments, gas, electricity, subsistence, mortgage, etc).

Financial commitment (e.g. mortgage repayment)	Monthly total

Financial commitment (e.g. mortgage repayment)	Monthly total

**Total**  £

**3.** Other members of household:

Status (e.g. single/married/living with partner)

Do you have any children and, if so how many?

What are their ages?

**4.** If married/living with partner, does your partner work?      Yes       No

Net monthly income  £  (including bonus, overtime etc).

**5.** We would expect you to have approached your employer for funding assistance to support your professional development.  
Have you done so?      Yes       No       If you have not been successful, please enclose evidence confirming this.

**6.** Are you anticipating receiving other financial help to complete this programme of study?      Yes       No

If the answer is yes, please provide details:

**7.** Name of referee

Occupation

Address

Postcode       Tel

Email

**SECTION F – Personal narrative**

Please provide a personal narrative in the space provided. This should include: why you are completing this course, why you are applying to Marine Society for assistance and any other relevant information which has not already been included in this application.

# Financial assistance for UK seafarers

## Notes

There are several 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.
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](mailto:dstevens@ukchamberofshipping.com)

## All applications (Hanway, Worcester and JW Slater Scholarships and interest-free loans) should be sent to:

The Marine Society, 202 Lambeth Road, London SE1 7JW

E: [education@ms-sc.org](mailto:education@ms-sc.org) T: 020 7654 7029/50