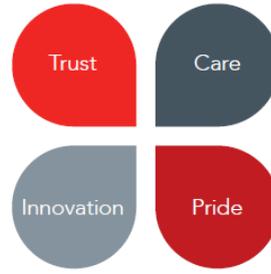


# Serco Maritime Services AB Deck Apprentice

## Info Sheet



### Apprentice Programme



### Occupation: Able Seafarer Deck

#### Role Description

An Able Seafarer (deck) works as a member of the navigation department on board ships and vessels of different types and sizes, carrying out watchkeeping duties; maintaining the safety and security of the vessel, cargo and personnel on board; and undertaking a range of practical seafarer skills covering ropework, anchoring and mooring activities and operations.

An able seafarer will work a shift rota over a twenty four hour time span and may have to work on their own and as a member of a team. They must adhere to safe and environmentally responsible working practices and international regulations, without endangering themselves, others or the marine environment, and will have a range of security duties. An able seafarer must be able to work safely in enclosed spaces and at heights, and must also be able to respond to vessel emergencies; administer emergency first aid; carry out fire prevention and fire-fighting duties; be able to use survival techniques in the water; and be able to operate survival craft and rescue boats.

The qualifications and certification achieved by an able seafarer means he/she will be able to work on board any type and size of ship in any part of the world.

#### Training and Qualifications

##### Duration

The training for an able seafarer will need to include short periods training ashore learning basic practical seafarer and watchkeeping skills and related underpinning knowledge and theory. This will be combined with periods of applying this knowledge and developing further skills onboard a variety of ships and vessels of all sizes.

Coupled with required periods of leave, it is expected that minimum completion time of the apprenticeship will be around 18-24 months (including sea time).

##### Qualifications

Upon successful completion of the apprenticeship the following will have been achieved;

- Level 2 Award in Maritime Studies – Deck Rating (Issued by SQA)
- Level 2 Certificate in Maritime Studies – Able Seafarer Deck (Issued by SQA)
- Able Seafarer Deck Certificate (Issued by Maritime and Coastguard Agency)

#### Prior to start

- Pass ENG1 Seafarers Medical Examination
- Obtain proper Security Clearance

#### Stage 1: Shore based training

- Company Induction
- Basic Safety Week
- SQA Short Courses (Part 1)
- Enclosed Space Entry Course

#### Stage 2: Sea Service:

- Obtain Navigational Watch Rating Certificate
- Progress with tasks assigned in Training Record Book

#### Stage 3: Shore Based Training

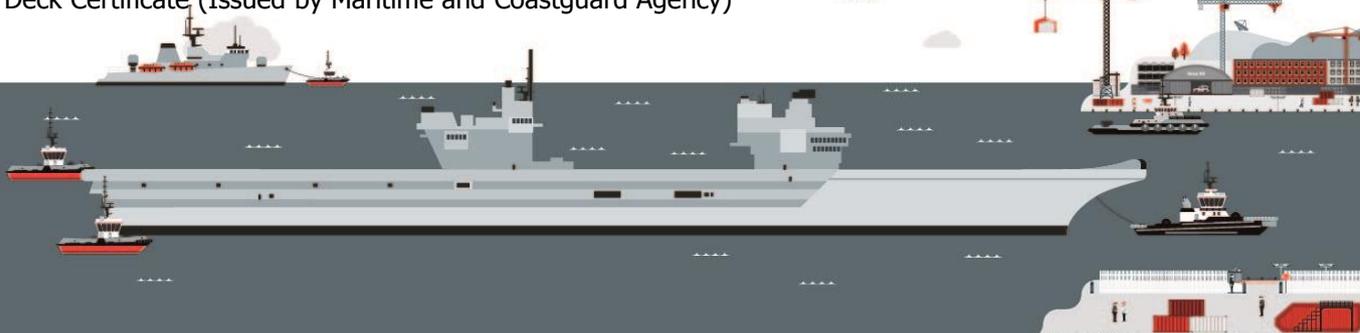
- Efficient Deck Hand Course
- Life/Rescue boat Certificate
- SQA Short Courses (Part 2)

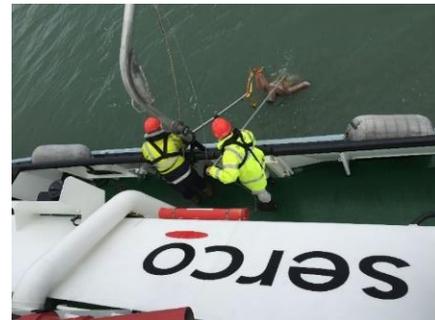
#### Stage 4: Sea Service

- Complete all assigned tasks in Training Record Book

#### Stage 5: Final Assessment

- Final Assessment and issue of AB Deck Certificate.





The following are examples of the knowledge & skillsets you will develop during your apprenticeship

- How to berth and anchor a ship;
- How to steer and ship and alter course;
- How perform look out duties and become an important part of the Bridge team;
- How to operate deck machinery and equipment;
- How to effectively secure cargo onboard;
- How to provide and maintain safe access to the vessel;

- How to carry out deck and accommodation safety and security patrols;
- How to undertake deck maintenance, repair and cleaning
- How to maintain a vessel's weather and watertight integrity
- How to allocate and supervise tasks
- How to operate emergency equipment and perform emergency procedures

- How to perform fire prevention and fire fighting procedures
- How to administer emergency first aid
- How to operate survival craft and rescue boats and use survival at sea techniques
- How to apply safe working practices covering a range of activities; and
- Hope to apply security procedures to protect the vessel and those onboard

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1) How long will I need to go away for? You will spend periods of 6 weeks on the out of port vessels and then 3 weeks on the smaller in port ones where you may be able to go home in the evenings and/or at weekends, you will then receive 3 weeks leave.
- 2) What happens if I get sea sick? Almost everyone gets seasick at some point in their career at sea and whilst it sucks at the time it will pass as your mind and body adapts to the motion of the vessel you are on.
- 3) How much time do I need to spend at college? There is a small element of academic work to complete as well as a training portfolio to accompany the Training Record Book you will be issued but the majority of the AB Deck Apprenticeship is the development of practical skills.
- 4) Can I get home for birthdays and big holidays like Christmas or New Year? In short the answer is usually no to this question. If your birthday or New Years falls within your time onboard the vessel then that's where you will spend it, it's just part of life in a career at sea.

