# Officer of the Watch (Near Coastal) Apprenticeship

Fleetwood Nautical Campus of Blackpool and the Fylde College (FNC) has embarked into the development of the Officer of the Watch (Near Coastal) Apprenticeship.

**About:** FNC has been providing first-rate maritime training for almost 130 years. Our portfolio of programmes includes deck and engine rating apprenticeships, Level 3 Diploma, Advanced Certificate, Advanced Diploma, Foundation Degree, BSc Top-Up and a broad range of short courses across deck, engine and ETO disciplines. Our overall aim is to become the provider choice for the maritime industry by offering high quality maritime education and training services. As the new apprenticeship standard is published, we are aiming to include it into our portfolio.

**Apprenticeship Standard:** This standard offers £15.000 levy funding and would be suitable for any company with an office in England. The exact amount of levy funding available depends on the size of the company: 3 million or more income – 100% levy funding; over 50 employees – 95% funding.

**Entry requirements:** The apprentice must have the right to work in England, be of 18 years old, obtain ENG and have Level 2 English and Math (GSCE 4-9). Candidates not meeting English and Math requirements will need to to undertake Functional Skills and work towards qualifications prior to End Point Assessment.

**Programme Design and Delivery:** The programme will be delivered will be delivered in the form of two pathways: new starters route (up to 36 months including 12 months of seagoing service and End Point Assessment) and experienced seafarers route (underpinning knowledge only). The intention is to design a contemporary study package with one set of practical units delivered on campus and a second set of units delivered via blended learning.

Underpinning knowledge are developed as a part of Level 3 Diploma in Maritime Studies: Officer of the Watch on Merchant Vessels of less than 500 gross tonnage (Near Coastal) and further enhanced with competencies developed as a part of STCW certification. Students will require to complete MCA external examination (orals and written).

**Additional Support:** FNC will be supporting employers with a dedicated client liaison officer, an account manager and apprenticeship team. Employers benefit from recruitment support and attend open day events, flexible start of the programme over a number of intakes per year and receive end of phase report for each apprentice. Students are offered to stay in renovated Halls of Residence. We have an extensive student package that we offer to all B&FC students.

**Contact Details:** This apprenticeship will be developed in collaboration with future employers and we are seeking to engage with for consolations and to ensure that the programme is designed to meet needs and requirements of employers. For further details please contact Alina Prylipko, Curriculum Manager Nautical Science Fleetwood Nautical Campus alina.prylipko@blackpool.ac.uk

**Further Links:**

Apprenticeship Standard and End Point Assessment:

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/officer-of-the-watch-near-coastal-v1-0>

Level 3 Diploma in Maritime Studies: Officer of the Watch on Merchant Vessels of less than 500 gross tonnage (Near Coastal)

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/82107.html>

Apprenticeship Funding Rules for Employers

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1037430/2122_Employer_Rules_Version_2__To_publish.pdf>