**Funding Application for Unemployed Seafarers**

The Maritime Educational Foundation (MEF) is a shipping industry charitable organisation, overseen by a board of Trustees who represent Nautilus International, the Rail, Maritime and Transport workers union (RMT), several UK based shipping companies, and the UK Chamber of Shipping.

We provide individual grant funding support to eligible unemployed seafarers to update their skills and/or revalidate specific certification requirements to increase their employability potential.

You can apply for financial support by downloading and completing this application form to mef@ukchamberofshipping.com.

Please note:

1. Funding is available to eligible unemployed seafarers undertaking updating training at approved MCA centres, leading to STCW 2010 certification. Payment is made direct to training centres with which the MEF has an MOU.
2. To be eligible for funding, applicants should be:
* A UK national or a national of a Member State of the European Economic Area of the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.
* Ordinarily resident in the UK (support under MEF funding will not be paid in respect of overseas nationals who are subject to employment restrictions and/or a time limit on their stay). ‘Ordinarily resident’ could be demonstrated by being resident in the UK for about a year at the time of original application with the intention of remaining so for the foreseeable future, or less than that period if owning a property or having close family ties in the UK.
* Proficient in spoken and written English and must state an intention to be ordinarily resident in the UK following completion of their training.
* Unemployed for a minimum of three months before submitting an application. We will require documentary evidence of your recent unemployment.
1. Applicants are advised that there is a discretionary funding cap of £2,000 for any individual candidate.
2. Applications will be considered on a first come first served basis until yearly funds are exhausted.
3. Retrospective applications will not be considered - this means no monies will be refunded to any individual who may have paid a deposit for the course, the full cost of the course or who has completed the course.
4. The MEF reserves the right to charge individuals for the full cost of the course should they not attend.
5. The MEF does not consider repeated applications for courses that have previously been awarded funding.
6. All sections of the application form should be completed clearly and in full. The MEF will need assurance that the course is relevant to your re-employment at sea.

Please complete in **BLOCK CAPITALS**

**Section A – Personal details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Full name** |  |
| **Date of birth** | DD/MM/YYY |
| **Nationality** |  |
| **Rank/Rating** |  |
| **Discharge Book no.** |  |
| **National Insurance no.** |  |
| **Please also attach a copy of your valid Passport** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Home address** |  |
| **Postcode** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Telephone no.** |  |

**Section B – Previous employer details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Your last employer** |  |
| **Employer address** |  |
| **Employer postcode** |  |
| **Employer tel no.** |  |
| **Role on board** |  |
| **Date of becoming unemployed (proof must be provided)** |  |
| **Please also attach a copy of your CV and evidence of unemployment** |

**Section C – Courses requested for funding**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MEF approved courses for funding** | **MCA/OPITO approved centre** | **Date of course (within a month)** | **Cost (excl. VAT)** |
| PST updating training |  |  |  |
| PSC&RB updating training |  |  |  |
| Fire prevention & fire-fighting updating training |  |  |  |
| Advanced fire-fighting updating training |  |  |  |
| OPITO BOSIET |  |  |  |
| OPITO MIST |  |  |  |
| **Total cost** |  |  |  |
| Other MEF approved courses (listed here: <http://meftraining.org/funding-opportunities/>) that could increase your employability may be funded. If you wish to apply for any further STCW course(s), you should state **below** the course, centre and cost.  |
|  |

**Section D – Personal Statement**

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| Please provide a personal narrative in the space below. This should include more information of your recent role and the reason you believe this course would provide you with a greater employment opportunity, as well as any other relevant information which has not been included. 300 words max. |
|  |

**Section E - application checklist**

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1.** | Details of the centre, dates and cost are correct |  |
| **2.** | Each section is complete |  |
| **3.** | A copy of your CV |  |
| **4.** | Evidence of your unemployment (redundancy, contract, JSA or equivalent evidence) |  |
| **5.** | Copy of your valid Passport and/or Discharge book  |  |
| **6.** | Copy of your current STCW certificates  |  |

**If the above information is incorrect your application may not be considered.**

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| --- |
| I certify that the above is a complete statement of my circumstances and of the intended course of study. I confirm that I am unemployed at the start of the course and will remain so during the course of training.  |
| Signature: | Date: |

**The MEF is unable to provide advice and guidance and cannot accept telephone calls. Please allow a minimum of two weeks for your application to be processed.**

**Thank you for completing this application, please return this completed form to:** mef@ukchamberofshipping.com