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Caption: ABYC visited Carteret Community College, Suncoast Technical College and Fort Myers Technical College as part of the Marine Trades Accreditation Program review process.

ABYC Foundation Accredits Three Marine Service Technology Programs

The newly accredited programs demonstrate a continued commitment to quality marine service education and workforce development

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (June 30, 2026) – The ABYC Foundation has announced the



Marine Trades Accreditation Program (MTAP) accreditation of three marine service technology programs: Carteret Community College in Morehead City, North Carolina; Fort Myers Technical College in Fort Myers, Florida; and Suncoast Technical College in Sarasota, Florida.

Launched in 2022, MTAP strengthens marine service technology education by helping schools align training with industry needs and giving employers confidence in the skills graduates bring to the workforce. Accreditation is available to high school and post-secondary marine service technology programs and includes application review, approval by the ABYC Foundation Accreditation Commission and an onsite evaluation with school administrators, faculty and students.

“Accreditation is an important step in strengthening marine service education,” said Lisa Van Gruisen, ABYC’s MTAP Coordinator. “These programs are helping prepare the next generation of marine service professionals through instruction that reflects the evolving technology and workforce needs.”

In addition to the credibility gained through MTAP accreditation, schools receive benefits designed to support marine technical education, including instructor resources, school and student membership opportunities, ABYC certification courses for instructors, curriculum review and consultation, and access to a national network of marine industry educators.

All three schools were previously part of ABYC’s Marine League of Schools and were grandfathered into MTAP when the program launched. This marks their first MTAP accreditation after completing the program’s formal review process and reflects their continued commitment to quality education.

For more information about MTAP and marine service technology programs, visit teachboats.org.

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ABYC Foundation

The ABYC Foundation supports the mission of the American Boat & Yacht Council, with a focus on workforce development and providing resources that

create educational and lifelong career opportunities to both current and aspiring marine service technicians. To get involved, visit teachboats.org.

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