



The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights

MentorShip FAQ's

Q. When can I apply?

A. We call for applications at the start of each academic year, usually 1 October. The application window is normally open for 4-5 weeks. The deadline for applications is usually 31 October.

Your university will be notified each year with specific details – check in with them too.

Q. When will I know if my application has been successful?

A. We usually review applications and undertake the 'pairing' process in early November. You will be notified shortly thereafter whether your application has been successful or not.

Q. What is pairing?

A. It is the process by which we 'pair' successful applicants with suitable Shipwright Mentors, taking into account the applicant's maritime interests and aspirations, as well as the Mentor's area of professional knowledge and expertise.

Q. What is a Sponsor?

A. A Sponsor is a member of the academic staff at your university who is happy to endorse your application.

Please ensure you have your Sponsor's permission to name them and please make sure they are aware that you have applied.

It's also a good idea to ask your Sponsor to review your application before you submit it. We offer up to 30 mentee places a year. It is a respected scheme and there is competition for places amongst students at our 6 participating universities.

Q. What if I don't have any professional qualifications?

A. Don't worry! This question is to enable mature students – who are moving from industry or a sea-going job to studying at level 6 for a 'top-up' to a Bachelor's degree – to list professional qualifications in lieu of other academic qualifications or attainment in year 1 and 2 Bachelor's degree examinations and assessments.

Q. What experience will my Shipwright Mentor have?

A. Shipwright Mentors are drawn from a cross-section of the maritime sector. Their industry knowledge and experience is extensive, and will be as relevant to your maritime interests and aspirations as possible.

Maritime employment sectors represented in the Shipwrights include:

- **Engineering, Naval Architecture and Research**
- **Law and Arbitration**
- **Marine Insurance**
- **Maritime Education, Training and Charities**
- **Marine Leisure and Marinas**
- **Merchant Navy**
- **Other professional services (e.g. Classification, Recruitment, Consultancy, Security & Heritage)**
- **Ports and Harbours**
- **Royal Navy**
- **Shipbroking**
- **Shipbuilding / Repair**
- **Ship Finance**
- **Shipmanagement**
- **Ship owning / Chartering**
- **Trade Associations**

Q. What can I expect from my Shipwright Mentor?

A. To be a Shipwright Mentor, Shipwrights must have:

- **Substantial professional experience in the maritime sector.**
- **Detailed knowledge of their own industry sector; standards, expectations and requirements to work within it.**
- **Knowledge and experience of networking and developing contacts.**
- **Ability to listen, question and challenge constructively.**
- **Ability to work confidentially and respect it.**
- **Ability to identify and address barriers to progression.**
- **Ability to use own perspective professionally.**
- **Planning and organisational skills.**
- **Ability to set goals and in record keeping**

Q. What will be expected of me as a Mentee?

A. If you follow our “How to be a Great Mentee” guide, we are sure you will do well.

There are a few other things we would mention:

At the end of your mentoring period, you will be required to provide a short report of your experience; what you learnt, how it helped you, what you enjoyed, what didn't you enjoy, where it might be improved etc.

We will also ask for your feedback in two other ways:

Firstly, we will ask you to rate the scheme based on the following question:

How likely are you to recommend MentorShip to a friend or colleague?

Not at all likely 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Extremely likely

Secondly, if you feel you have enjoyed and benefited from the mentoring process, we would be delighted if you will provide us with a short testimonial. It's not obligatory, but testimonials do help us promote the scheme to other students.

The main thing is that we want you to enjoy and benefit from being a Mentee. If you have any questions or concerns, raise them. And do keep in touch with the Shipwrights Company when you have graduated. If you are a Mentee, you will then go on to be an Alumnus of the scheme. The *MentorShip* Alumni network grows with each passing year and it is a great network to be part of.

Q. When will the mentoring relationship start?

A. The mentoring relationship starts formally when both prospective Mentee and Shipwright Mentor have agreed to the pairing.

Q. How long will the mentoring relationship last?

A. If you are in your final year of a Bachelor's degree (level 6), or on a 1-year Master course (level 7), the mentoring relationship will last for the duration of the academic year.

If you are in your second year of a Bachelor's degree, the mentoring relationship will last for the duration of the academic year or extend through to the end of your final academic year, if both you and your Shipwright Mentor agree to extend it.

Q. When will the mentoring relationship end?

A. In the context of the *MentorShip* scheme, the mentoring relationship will come to an end at the conclusion of your academic studies ('Graduation'). At the point of Graduation, you will be an *Alumni of MentorShip*.

- Q.** Can I continue in a mentoring relationship with my Shipwright mentor after graduation?
- A.** Yes, if you and your Shipwright Mentor wish to continue with a mentoring relationship post-Graduation. However, it will then be a private matter between you and your Shipwright Mentor and fall outside the auspices of *MentorShip*.
- Q.** Will *MentorShip* help me improve my grades?
- A.** *MentorShip* is not an academic mentoring scheme. Nor is it a substitute for academic tutoring. It is possible that as a result of the mentoring relationship you might develop a different perspective on your studies, which might ultimately be reflected in your grades. However, the Shipwrights' Company does not guarantee, explicitly or otherwise, that you will achieve any particular examination results because of your participation in *MentorShip*.
- Q.** Will *MentorShip* help me find a job after graduation?
- A.** The aim of the *MentorShip* scheme is to provide you with advice, guidance and support while you are studying and as you look to move into the world of work. It is not a recruitment scheme, nor is it the purpose of *MentorShip* to help find you a job after graduation. The Shipwrights' Company does not guarantee, explicitly or otherwise, that you will be offered future employment because of your participation in the *MentorShip* scheme.
- Q.** What is The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights?
- A.** The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights is one of the City of London's 113 livery companies, with its origins dating from before 1199. Originally formed to safeguard the quality of shipbuilding in London, today the Shipwrights' Company provides support to organisations, charities educational institutions and individuals associated with the Company's role as a City of London Livery Company and its origins and trade.

To find out more, please visit the Company's website at www.shipwrights.co.uk