

Here is some helpful information about blasting in Nova Scotia:

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Requirements for Blasting in Nova Scotia

In Nova Scotia, blasting activities are regulated provincially by the Department of Labour and Advanced Education.

For information about the **requirements for blasting in Nova Scotia**, click [here](#).

Regulations

The Blaster Trade Regulations detail the requirements for certification and are administered by the Apprenticeship Training division. A copy is available online here: www.gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/atqblaster.htm

The Blasting Safety Regulations detail the requirements for blasting activities in Nova Scotia, including specialized blasting and special case blasts, and are administered by the Occupational Health and Safety division. A copy is available online here: www.gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/ohsblasting.htm

Blaster Refresher Training

Certified Blasters (1st, 2nd and 3rd classes) must renew their certification every five years. Refresher training is mandatory to renew certification. Blaster Refresher training is offered annually, in March, at various locations around the province, and online. Certified Blasters whose certification expires will receive written notice with details of the training.

For more information concerning Blaster Refresher Training in Nova Scotia, refer to **questions 17-20** [here](#).

Blasting Safety Training

To be recognized as a Blaster Assistant, individuals must meet eligibility requirements of Section 16 (e) of the Blasting Safety Regulations. All new entrants to the trade will be

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recognized as Blaster Assistants if they successfully complete the approved safety training and/or examination. An approved Blasting Safety training course and examination is available for individuals who work, or would like to work, on a blast site, but who are not certified blasters or have not previously successfully completed an approved training course and examination in the safe handling of explosives.

Upon successful completion, individuals will be issued a card, and will be able to conduct the following blasting activities, under the close visual supervision of a certified blaster:

- prime a charge;
- make a connection that leads from a charge to a blasting machine, a blasting switch, safety fuse, or shock tube initiating system;
- program a delay for a blast; or
- fire a charge.

To apply for Blasting Safety training and a Blasting Safety card, contact the Apprenticeship Training Division at (902) 424-5651, or toll free at 1-800-494-5651, or fill out the Blasting Safety Application Form available here:

nsapprenticeship.ca/forms_and_publications/Blasting_Safety_Form.pdf

A fee of \$13.66 applies for the Blasting Safety card. The tuition fee for Blasting Safety training is \$82.80.



Blasting Safety Card

IMPORTANT: All individuals previously certified as Blasting Trainees under the former General Blasting Regulations are automatically recognized as Blaster Assistants under the new Blasting Safety Regulations. No further action is required of these individuals, as there is no longer any requirement to have a certificate or to renew a certificate. These individuals **do not need** to take Blasting Safety training.

For more information concerning blaster assistants and Blasting Safety training in Nova Scotia, refer to **questions 11-13** [here](#).

Blasting Logs and Reports

The Department of Labour and Advanced Education, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Division requires that Blasters complete and submit various logs, forms and reports.

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OHS makes some of these documents available. Blasters and employers can develop and use their own forms as long as they meet the minimum information requirements indicated in the Blasting Safety Regulations. The logs that blasters need to complete, as required per the provincial Occupational Health and Safety Act or Blasting Safety Regulations, include:

- Blast Log
- Blasting Incident Report
- Application for Special Case Blasts and Specialized Blasts
- Written Work Procedure
- Deviation
- Magazine Inventory
- Hazard Assessment Form

For information and videos about completing these logs and reports, please see the Blaster Trade Communication Study Guide on Blasting Logs and Reports at:

http://nsapprenticeship.ca/forms_and_publications/Blaster_Trade_Communication_Study_Guide.pdf.

Information is also available [here](#) for frequently asked questions about blasting logs and reports.

Out of Province Blasters with Equivalent Certification

If you hold a recognized trade credential (certificate of qualification, etc.) issued by another Canadian province or territory in the Blaster trade and you wish to work in Nova Scotia, you must obtain a Nova Scotia Equivalency Card.

To apply for the card, fill out the National Holder of Apprenticeship and Trade-Related Credentials application form (available at www.nsapprenticeship.ca/forms_and_publications/Nat_Holder_Apprent_Trade-related_Credentials_App.pdf) and submit along with:

- any additional documentation required; and
- applicable fee to the Apprenticeship Training Division.

Click [here](#) for more information on recognized equivalent credentials and submitting the required documentation.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are you looking for more information or answers to questions? Click [here](#) for frequently asked questions about blasting in Nova Scotia.