

September 1, 2015

Re: Requirement for Practical and Written Examination for Welder Certification

Dear Apprentice/Trade Qualifier/Employer

The Red Seal Welder Trade has been identified as a priority trade for harmonization. The purpose of harmonization is to achieve standardized training and examination processes throughout Canada. Harmonization of the Welder Trade will enable industry to better respond to demand and facilitate easier mobility for apprentices and trade qualifiers. This letter is to inform you of the changes coming to the Welder Examination process and a new Welder Practical Examination commencing this November.

If you are a third year welder, trade qualifier, or you employ welders, please note this change:

Beginning this September, **all** apprentices and trade qualifiers will be required to successfully complete a Practical Welding Examination prior to the Written Examination. Upon successful completion of both examinations, you will receive a Certificate of Qualification with the Red Seal endorsement. This is a requirement of the Interprovincial Standards Red Seal Program.

The Welder Practical Examination will be administered in one session, five (5) hours in duration, at the end of the technical training for Level 3 Apprentices. Five (5) welding processes will be tested. They include:

- Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW);
- Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW);
- Flux Cored Arc Welding or Metal Cored Arc Welding;
- Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW);
- Oxy Fuel Cutting.

Welders who have one or more equivalent “tickets” as proof of competency for the above listed processes will be required to successfully complete the missing welding processes and the Oxy-Fuel Cutting component of the practical exam for Red Seal certification.

The first practical exam will take place in mid-December. Level 3 Apprentices and Trade Qualifiers must contact their Training Officer in order to register for the Practical Exam.

For further information please contact the Training Consultant/Officer in your region or visit our website for your Training Consultant/Officer at: <https://nsapprenticeship.ca/contact/training-consultants>.

Sincerely,



Director, Programs and Operations

Cc: Industrial Training Consultants and Officers