

Should *Mechanical Insulation within the Insulator (Heat and Frost) Trade* be designated as Compulsory Certified in Nova Scotia?

The Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency (NSAA) is reviewing a request to change the trade designation of Insulator (Heat and Frost) from voluntary to compulsory certification.

Compulsory Certification

- When a trade is specified as compulsory certified, any person performing the work of the trade must have one of the following:
- A certificate of qualification in the trade
 - Be a registered apprentice in the trade
 - Possess a temporary permit issued by NSAA, or
 - Hold a certificate recognized by NSAA.

Designation change

Insulators install insulating materials in residential, commercial, and industrial structures, do firestopping, apply spray foam and remove asbestos. This work performed to a quality standard ensures energy efficiency, lowers environmental emissions, and improves the longevity and health of structures. Mechanical Insulation optimizes the operation of engineered systems through passive conservation of energy to reduce system operating cost and lower harmful emissions including carbon.

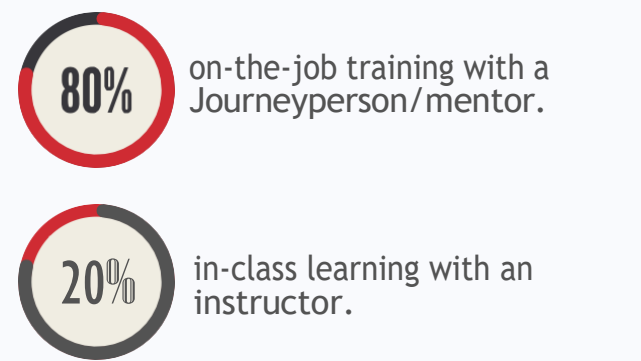
Mechanical Insulation uses specialized materials, customized and engineered for mechanical systems to insulate piping, equipment, HVAC, boilers, and other applications where temperatures are above and/or below ambient. It is a vital component in maintaining structures that both integrate and optimize, on a life cycle basis, high performance operational attributes such as energy conservation, environmental health, safety, security, accessibility, cost benefit, productivity, sustainability, and functionality.

Certified journeypersons work primarily in Industrial, Commercial, Institutional (ICI) and Marine environments installing Mechanical Insulation. The Return on Investment (ROI) can be within two years. Currently in Nova Scotia, Insulator is a voluntary trade with a 7200-hour apprenticeship training pathway and the standard Apprentice to Journeyperson ratio. Technical training has 4 levels, delivered by the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators, Local 116.

What is Apprenticeship?

- Apprenticeship is a post-secondary education and training system that leads to certification.
- The employer hires and pays a full-time apprentice for the duration of their training.
- Apprentices receive on-the-job training from a certified trades professional (Journeyperson).
- The employer is responsible to ensure apprentices are trained in the full scope of the trade.

Apprenticeship training is approximately ...



The Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency is responsible for the trades training and certification system across the province and partner with industry to:



Promote and support apprenticeship opportunities and ensure that trade-specific training is responsive to the needs of industry and the Nova Scotia job market.

We Value Your Input

A Trade Advisory Committee (TAC) of industry representatives has examined the request and prepared a draft recommended approach. The TAC is seeking broader industry input on the approach and will make a recommendation to the Apprenticeship Board once the industry has been consulted. Any change in designation to compulsory certification is subject to approval by Executive Council.

What is being proposed?

- The TAC is recommending:
- Compulsory certification of Mechanical Insulation, Firestopping and the application of Spray Foam within the Insulator trade.
 - Firestop and Spray Foam workers complete training based on the Insulator Red Seal Occupational Standard and receive a certificate of completion.
 - Asbestos Removal and Residential Insulation would be exempt.
 - A five-year implementation period to allow industry time to respond, plan and adjust.

Insulator (Heat and Frost)

Mechanical Insulation

Firestopping Spray Foam

Asbestos Removal

Residential Insulation

**Blue = Compulsory Certified, Green = Voluntary*

Submit Your Feedback

Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts.

Link to the survey and consultation support materials can be found on the NSAA website:
nsapprenticeship.ca/Consultations

