

Regulation Update

Change to the trade of Industrial Welder

On July 21, 2010, the Manitoba government registered a new Trade of Welder regulation that replaces the former Industrial Welder regulation. The following details the changes that have been made to the regulation.

Coming into Force

This regulation comes into force 90 days after it is registered under *The Regulations Act*, allowing industry time to prepare for the changes.

For Apprentices

Definitions

The definition for the trade of Welder has been updated to reflect the current National Occupational Analysis for the trade. The trade name has also changed from "Industrial Welder" to the Red Seal trade name of "Welder."

Apprentice Eligibility

Entry requirements from 16 years of age or older with grade nine completion has changed to a high school diploma (unless registering as an Access Program Trainee or through the High School Apprenticeship Program). This change will reflect the Apprenticeship Eligibility requirements as outlined in section (3) of the General Regulation.

Wage Rates

Minimum wage rates will change to the following:

Unless otherwise prescribed by a payment agreement or enactment that is more favorable to the apprentice, the wage rate for an apprentice shall not be less than:

- 120 per cent of the provincial minimum wage during the first level;
- 140 per cent of the provincial minimum wage during the second level;
- 160 per cent of the provincial minimum wage during the third level.

Trades Qualifications

The process for experienced welders to become certified in this trade [Trades Qualifications (TQ)] has changed to be consistent with the General Regulation sec (22). Applicants must demonstrate that they have been employed doing tasks within the scope of the trade for at least 4.5 years of the last 10 years and they have performed at least 70 per cent of the tasks for the trade.

Certification Examination

The certification examination for the trade consists of a written interprovincial examination as well as a practical examination.

Transitional Provision – Designated Trainer

For the purpose of determining the ratio of journeypersons to apprentices in the trade, a person who is a designated trainer may be included as a journeyperson.

In order to qualify as a designated trainer, a person must:

- (a) make application in a form acceptable to the director;
- (b) have been employed in the trade for at least 4.5 years of the preceding 10 years; and
- (c) have experience in 70 per cent of the tasks of the trade.

Note: This section is repealed five years after the day that it comes into force.

For Employers:

Ratios

The ratio provision has been changed to reflect the on-site supervision ratio of one journeyperson to one apprentice (1:1) as outlined in section 10 (1) of the General Regulation. The previous ratio provision reflected an employment ratio (for the purposes of hiring) and did not reflect the General Regulation's treatment of ratios as a supervision ratio (for the purposes of training), creating an unclear system.

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1-877-97-TRADE (1-877-978-7233)

www.manitoba.ca/tradecareers

Thompson

118-3 Station Rd.
R8N 0N3
204-677-6346
Fax 204-677-6689

The Pas

305 Fourth St. W
R9A 1M4
204-627-8290
Fax 204-627-8137

Brandon

128, 340-9th St.
R7A 6C2
204-726-6365
Fax 204-726-6912

Winnipeg

1010-401 York Ave.
R3C 0P8
204-945-3337
Fax 204-948-2346