

Regulation Update Trade Regulation for Welder

On February 22, 2017, the Manitoba government amended the trade regulation for the trade of Welder, Manitoba Regulation 20/2017. The following outlines the changes that have been made to the regulation and will be effective beginning April 23, 2017.

Scope of the Trade

A Welder is defined as a person who performs the following tasks of the trade to the standard indicated in the occupational analysis:

- (a) permanently joins pieces of metal being manufactured, builds metal structures and repairs damaged or worn metal parts by applying heat, using filler metal or fusion process;
- (b) uses various welding and cutting processes to join structural steel and cut metal in vessels, piping and other components;
- (c) fabricates ferrous and non-ferrous metals, tools, machines and equipment used in the construction and manufacturing industries.

Term of Apprenticeship

The term of apprenticeship for the trade remains at three levels, with each level consisting of 1,800 hours of technical training and practical experience. This means that apprentices must complete an additional 200 hours in the trade per level as of April 23, 2017.

Wage Rates

The minimum wage rates were updated to reflect industry wage levels and will apply to apprentices as of April 23, 2017:

- (a) 125% of the provincial minimum wage during the first level;
- (b) 145% of the provincial minimum wage during the second level; and
- (c) 165% of the provincial minimum wage during the third level.

Commonly Asked Question

Does this mean I can only be paid 1.25 times the provincial minimum wage during the first level?

The wage rates set out for each level are the *minimum* requirements, but this does not stop employers from paying more. In other words, you will be paid at least this amount for level one, and so on for each level.

Effective October 2015, the provincial minimum wage in Manitoba is \$11.00 an hour. This means that a first-level Welder apprentice is entitled to a minimum hourly wage rate of \$13.75.

For more information, please visit the Apprenticeship Manitoba office nearest to you, or visit our website at www.manitoba.ca/tradecareers.