



# Welder

## About this job

Welders are precise, coordinated, and enjoy working with their hands. The trade offers work on a wide variety of projects and includes opportunities in indoor and outdoor settings, and in some cases includes travel to remote locations.



WELDER HOLDS NATIONAL OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATION  
(NOC) CODE #7237/72106



- Three-year program
- Eligible for Red Seal Endorsement
- Requires out of the territory technical training
- High Demand Trade
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Mining

## \$131,000

Estimated Average Journeyperson Salary

APPRENTICESHIP, TRADES, AND OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATION

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## What can I expect to do for work if I become a Welder?

Welders join or sever metals in beams, girders, vessels, piping, and other metal components. They make metal parts used in construction, and weld parts, tools, machines and equipment. Welding usually involves applying heat to metal pieces to melt and fuse them together. Various techniques include electric arc welding, gas welding, and resistance welding.

Welders use different welding processes and fillers depending upon the type of metal, its size and shape, and requirements for finished product strength. For a typical welding project, they:

- develop patterns for projects or follow directions given in layouts, blueprints and work orders,
- clean, check for defects and shape component parts, sometimes using a cutting torch, and
- weld parts together.

Welders may also build up worn parts by welding layers of high-strength hard-metal alloys onto them.

## What kind of working conditions can I expect?

Welders work in a wide variety of work environments. They may work outdoors on construction sites or indoors in production and repair shops. Travel may be required on jobs such as oilfield-related welding. A 40-hour work week is normal, but overtime is sometimes required. There is some risk of injury involved working with torches and hot metals and the resulting sparks and toxic gases.

## What are some skills that are valued in this profession?

The work is most rewarding for those who enjoy building things and working with little direction or supervision.

To be successful in the trade, welders must have:

- manual dexterity,
- good vision (glasses are acceptable),
- hand-eye coordination,
- the ability to concentrate on detailed work, and
- patience.

## What is the minimum requirement to become an apprentice in this trade?

Apprentices must obtain a minimum of 70% on the Trades Entrance Exam – TEE Category #1 or the equivalent education as outlined below. This must be done before signing the Apprenticeship contract and attending technical training.

## How long will it take to complete a Welder apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship takes about three years to complete, including three on the job periods and three technical training periods. You need to complete 1800 hours per period, for a total of 5400 hours.

## How long is technical training?

Apprentices will attend 720 technical training hours. Apprentices usually go to school for this program in Alberta.

### Eligibility Requirements

Entrance Exam – Pass Exam 2 with a score of 70% or higher

or

Completion of the following high school courses

- English 10-2 (pass) or Literacy 20 (65% or higher)
- Math 10C (pass) or Math 10-3 (65% or higher)
- Science 10 (pass)

or

All five Canadian General Educational Development (GED) tests

**SCHOOLS NORTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (SNAP) - SNAP** apprentices are not required to satisfy the entrance requirements prior to signing an apprenticeship contract. However, the SNAP apprentice must satisfy the entrance requirements or write the TEE before attending technical training.

Period	Technical Training <sup>1</sup>	Prerequisites for technical training	Hours <sup>2</sup>
1st	8 Weeks 240 hours	Entrance Exam and 900 hours	1800
2nd	8 Weeks 240 hours	Completed 1 <sup>st</sup> Period	3600
3rd	8 Weeks 240 hours	Completed 2 <sup>nd</sup> Period	5400

<sup>1</sup>Length of In-School Training

<sup>2</sup>Minimum Time Required to Complete (Includes Technical Training)

For more information:

[www.gov.nt.ca/Apprenticeship](http://www.gov.nt.ca/Apprenticeship)