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★ **OFFICIAL PROGRAM STANDARDS NOTIFICATION** ★

Issued: June 27, 2011

Program: Plumber

To: ITA Training Providers
Construction Industry Training Organization (CITO)
ACE IT School Districts

RE: REF: 2011 019
UPDATE TO PLUMBER LEVEL EXAMINATIONS

Timing: September 1, 2011

Information: ITA Standardized Level Examinations

This note is an update on the status of the Plumber program further to OPSN 2009-013 which was issued on October 6, 2009 and OPSN 2010-018 which was issued on August 24, 2010.

OPSN 2009-013 indicated that the Industry Training Authority (ITA) had approved an updated standard for the Plumber Apprenticeship Program, and a revised program profile and program outline was posted on ITA's website at www.itabc.ca.

The Plumber Level 1, 2, 3 and 4 exam banks have been validated. Designated private post secondary training providers delivering the Plumber Foundation Program will be writing the new Plumber Level 1 exam starting September 1, 2011.

A. BC Public Post-Secondary Institutions

BC public post secondary training providers delivering the Plumber Apprenticeship Program as noted in OPSN 2009-013 are to continue using their proprietary final Level exams and continue weighting the final Level examinations. The proprietary final Level exams in OPSN 2010-018 are referenced as a 20% weighting of the in-school theory component. Refer to the attached Appendix A - Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings Tables from OPSN 2010-018 to determine a final in-school mark.

B. BC Private Post-Secondary Institutions delivering the Plumber Foundation Program

Plumber Foundation Program students are required to write the Plumber Level 1 ITA standardized exam.

The Level 1 ITA Plumber standardized exam may be requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure.

Training providers are also requested to have students complete an ITA Direct Access Registration form available on the ITA web site www.itabc.ca. Completion of the form by the Foundation program students will provide a Direct Access identification number (ID#) for the recording of in-school marks and the Plumber Level 1 exam marks. These forms should be completed by the Foundation program students within the first couple weeks of the program start date. The completed ITA Direct Access Registration forms are to be submitted by the training provider to ITA Customer Service. Each training providers will receive a list of Foundation program student names with ID numbers. These ID numbers must be placed on the exam request form when submitting a request to ITA Customer Service to arrange a scheduled date for writing the Plumber Level 1 exam.

The ITA will administer and invigilate the Level 1 exam, score and record exam results in ITA Direct Access.

The Plumbing Foundation final in-school mark is derived from a combination of theory and practical assessments determined on the basis of theory, practical subject competencies and in-school examinations.

ITA Direct Access – Training Provider’s calculation to produce the Plumber Foundation Program in-school mark

The Foundation in-school mark for entry in ITA Direct Access is calculated by:

- Totaling the Level 1 theory subject competencies noted in the Appendix B - Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings Tables and multiplying the total by 63% to produce a weighted theory result.
- Totaling the Level 1 practical subject competencies noted in the Appendix B - Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings Tables and multiplying the total by 37% to produce a weighted practical result.
- For Plumbing Foundation; add the Level 1 theory and practical competency results to determine the final weighted in-school mark. This percentage mark is entered into ITA Direct Access by the training provider.

ITA Direct Access – ITA calculation to produce the Plumber Foundation Program final mark

ITA Direct Access will do a weighting calculation based on a percentage weighting of the ITA standardized exam. The percentage weighting will be:

- 80% based on the final in-school mark, and
- 20% based on the final level exam mark.

A score of 70% or greater is required for a pass when combining the final in-school mark and the final level exam mark. Based on successfully completion, Plumbing Foundation program students will acquire an ITA Certificate of Completion (C of C).

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Appendix A**Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings Tables for BC Public Post-Secondary Institutions**

| Program: In-school Training: ITA Direct Access Code: | | Plumber apprenticeship Level 1 0017PL01 | |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Line | Subject Competencies | Theory Weighting | Practical Weighting |
| A | Use of Safe Work Practices | 6% | 5% |
| B | Use Tools & Equipment | 9% | 53% |
| C | Organize Work | 56% | 8% |
| D | Prepare & Assemble Plumbing Components | 9% | 34% |
| | In-school Final Exam | 20% | |
| | Total | 100% | 100% |
| | Level 1 in-school mark weighting | 63% | 37% |
| | Level 1 in-school mark: calculated by the training provider by combining the 63% theory and 37% practical subject competency weightings | | X% |

| Program: In-school Training: ITA Direct Access Code: | | Plumber apprenticeship Level 2 0017PL02 | |
|---|---|--|----------------------------|
| Line | Subject Competencies | Theory Weighting | Practical Weighting |
| B | Use Tools & Equipment | 2% | 6% |
| C | Organize Work | 2% | 15% |
| E | Install Sanitary & Storm Drainage Systems | 40% | 50% |
| H | Install Fixtures & Appliances | 8% | 0% |
| I | Install Hydronic Heating & Cooling | 24% | 29% |
| J | Install Specialized Systems | 4% | 0% |
| | In-school Final Exam | 20% | |
| | Total | 100% | 100% |
| | Level 2 in-school mark weighting | 63% | 37% |
| | Level 2 in-school mark: calculated by the training provider by combining the 63% theory and 37% practical subject competency weightings | X% | |

| Program: In-school Training: ITA Direct Access Code: | | Plumber apprenticeship Level 3 0017PL03 | |
|---|---|--|----------------------------|
| Line | Subject competencies | Theory Weighting | Practical Weighting |
| C | Organize Work | 7% | 12% |
| G | Install Water Service & Distribution | 40% | 50% |
| H | Install Fixtures & Appliances | 7% | 0% |
| J | Install Specialized Systems | 5% | 0% |
| L | Install Natural Gas & Propane Systems | 21% | 38% |
| | In-school Final Exam | 20% | |
| | Total | 100% | 100% |
| | Level 3 in-school mark weighting | 73% | 27% |
| | Level 3 in-school mark: calculated by the training provider by combining the 73% theory and 27% practical subject competency weightings | X% | |

| Program: In-school Training: ITA Direct Access Code: | | Plumber apprenticeship Level 4 0017PL04 | |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Line | Subject competencies | Theory Weighting | Practical Weighting |
| C | Organize Work | 2% | 0% |
| E | Install Sanitary & Storm Drainage Systems | 7% | 14% |
| F | Install Private Sewage Systems | 4% | 0% |
| G | Install Water Service & Distribution | 2% | 0% |
| I | Install Hydronic Heating & Cooling | 7% | 14% |
| J | Install Specialized Systems | 2% | 0% |
| K | Apply Plumbing Principles | 10% | 0% |
| L | Install Natural Gas & Propane Systems | 46% | 72% |
| | In-school Final Exam | 20% | |
| | Total | 100% | 100% |
| | Level 4 in-school mark weighting | 82% | 18% |
| | Level 4 in-school mark: calculated by the training provider by combining the 82% theory and 18% practical subject competency weightings | | X% |

Appendix B

Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings Tables for Private Post-Secondary Institutions delivering the Plumber Foundation Program

| Program: In-school Training: ITA Direct Access Code: | | Plumber Foundation Level 1 0017PL01 | |
|--|---|---|---------------------|
| Line | Subject Competencies | Theory Weighting | Practical Weighting |
| A | Use of Safe Work Practices | 8% | 5% |
| B | Use Tools & Equipment | 11% | 53% |
| C | Organize Work | 70% | 8% |
| D | Prepare & Assemble Plumbing Components | 11% | 34% |
| | Total | 100% | 100% |
| | Level 1 in-school mark weighting | 63% | 37% |
| | <p><u>Training Provider calculation</u> Level 1 in-school mark: calculated by the training provider by combining the 63% theory and 37% practical subject competency weightings.</p> | X% | |
| | <p><u>ITA calculation</u> Note: the final mark for determining credit for the level is calculated by ITA Direct Access. This calculation will be based on 80% in-school mark and 20% of the level exam score.</p> | | |