



★ **OFFICIAL PROGRAM STANDARDS NOTIFICATION** ★

Issued: October 11, 2011

**Programs: Welder Level C
Welder Level B
Welder Level A**

To: ITA Training Providers
Resource Training Organization (RTO)
ACE IT School Districts

**RE: REF: 2011 023
WELDER LEVEL C
WELDER LEVEL B
WELDER LEVEL A**

Timing: Effective April 2, 2012

Information: Implementation of Welder Level C and Welder Level B BC Certificate of Qualification Exams as a Credential Completion Requirement and the Enforcement of the Welder Interprovincial (IP) Red Seal Exam as a Credential Completion Requirement for Welder Level A

Background information

This notification is an update to OPSN 2009-001 issued in March, 2009 regarding the implementation of the Welder Level C BC Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) examination and to OPSN 2009-012 issued in June, 2009 regarding the implementation of the Welder Level B BC C of Q examination.

This OPSN outlines the implementation of ITA Welder Level C and Level B certification exams and the requirement of writing the Welder Interprovincial (IP) Red Seal exam at Welder Level A. If the trainee is to acquire the Welder Level A credential, the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam must be written either in place of the Welder Level B BC C of Q at the completion of the Welder Level B technical training session or at the completion of the Welder Level A technical training session.

Welder Level C and Welder Level B BC certification exams are being reinstated after extensive review and field testing administered by the Resource Training Organization. Training providers have participated in the validation of the exams. This validation process ensures that the content aligns with the current Welder programs and that the exams provide a fair and reliable assessment of a candidate's technical knowledge.

Technical Training

No changes are required to the delivery of the in-school technical training, logbook, or standardized practical examinations which are components of Welder Level C, Level B and Level A programs. All trainees must have successfully completed their in-school technical training (a final mark of 70% or better) to be eligible to write the BC C of Q exam or the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam.

A final in-school technical training mark should be submitted to ITA by training providers, either by entering a final mark for each trainee directly into ITA Direct Access or by submitting a final mark for each trainee to ITA Customer Service. In addition to reporting marks to ITA, training providers are expected to continue completing the relevant sections of the trainee Welder logbook.

BC Certificate of Qualification Examination changes and the Enforcement of the Welder Interprovincial Red Seal Examination

Welder Level C

Effective April 2, 2012, the Welder Level C BC Certificate of Qualification exam which is already implemented for challengers will be reinstated as a completion requirement for all Welder Level C trainees. Trainees starting Welder Level C technical training on or after April 2, 2012 will be required to sit an ITA invigilated C of Q exam and must obtain a mark of at least 70% on the exam before receiving the Welder Level C ITA Certificate of Qualification.

Welder Level B

Effective April 2, 2012, the Welder Level B BC Certificate of Qualification exam will be reinstated as a completion requirement for all Welder Level B trainees. Trainees starting Welder Level B technical training on or after April 2, 2012 will be required to sit an ITA invigilated Welder Level B BC C of Q exam **or** the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam.

Welder Level B trainees have the option of writing the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam as a certification exam in place of the Welder B BC C of Q exam. Individuals who elect this option and are successful will have the Red Seal endorsement affixed to their Welder Level B ITA Certificate of Qualification once all other requirements are met. A mark of at least 70% on either examination must be achieved before receiving the Welder Level B ITA Certificate of Qualification or the Welder Level B ITA Certificate of Qualification with the Red Seal endorsement. Candidates are encouraged to write the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam as their Welder Level B certification exam.

Training providers must make arrangements with ITA Customer Service for trainees to write either the Welder B BC C of Q exam **or** the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam at the completion of technical training. Training providers will need to ensure that the correct exam, either the Welder Level B BC C of Q or the Welder (IP) Red Seal, is identified on the ITA exam request form to ensure each candidate is writing the correct exam.

Welder Level A

Effective April 2, 2012, the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam will be enforced as a completion requirement for all Welder Level A programs. Trainees starting Welder Level A technical training on or after April 2, 2012, will be required to sit an ITA invigilated Welder (IP) Red Seal exam at the completion of the Welder Level A program, unless the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam has already been written and the Red Seal endorsement is already affixed to their Welder B Certificate of Qualification. If successful in writing the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam and in achieving the Welder Level A credential, the Red Seal endorsement will be affixed to their Welder Level A ITA Certificate of Qualification. Individuals can no longer achieve the Welder A Certificate of Qualification without having successfully written the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam.

Note: the Red Seal endorsement will only be affixed to one of either the Welder Level B or the Welder Level A ITA C of Q credential.

Registering Trainees and Scheduling Exam Sitings

Training providers are requested to have trainees complete an ITA Direct Access Registration form available on the ITA web site www.itabc.ca (under “Forms”) within the first couple of weeks of the program start date. Completion of the form by trainees will provide a Direct Access identification number (ID#) for the recording of examination marks. The completed ITA Direct Access Registration forms are to be submitted by the training provider to ITA Customer Service. Each training provider will receive a list of trainee names with ID numbers. These ID numbers must be placed on the ITA exam request form when submitting a request to ITA Customer Service to arrange a scheduled date for writing either the Welder Level C or Level B BC C of Q exams or the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam.

ITA will administer, invigilate, score and record results in ITA Direct Access for Welder Level C and Level B BC C of Q exams and for the Welder (IP) Red Seal exam.

Training providers are to arrange exam sittings for groups of trainees at the completion of their training session. Trainees on individual learning paths can be accommodated by arranging for the exam to be written with another ITA scheduled exam within the same training provider site. For assistance scheduling an exam, contact ITA Customer Service at **778.328.8700** (*Toll Free in BC 1.866.660.6011*).

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