

Issued: November 13, 2013

Program: **Ironworker (Reinforcing)**

To: British Columbia Institute of Technology
BC Construction Industry Training Organization

RE: **OPSN 2013 28 - Launch of ITA Standardized Level Examinations**

Timing: Effective: March 31, 2014

Information: Please be advised that effective March 31, 2014, the Industry Training Authority (ITA) will be launching Standardized Level Examinations for Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1. All Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1 classes completing on or after March 31, 2014 will be scheduled to write an ITA Standardized Level Examination. Ironworker (Reinforcing) classes write the Interprovincial Red Seal examination at the end of Level 2. Training providers are to follow the attached *Grading Sheet: "Subject Competencies and Weightings"* to determine an apprentice's final in-school technical training mark.

Background In 2012, ITA started launching ITA Standardized Level Examinations for a number of programs.

For each level of technical training that includes an ITA Standardized Level Exam, a training provider in-school percentage score and a standardized level exam percentage score will be blended to produce a final percentage score. The in-school percentage score will be multiplied by 80% and the exam percentage score will be multiplied by 20%. The two blended (80/20) scores will be added by ITA Direct Access to produce a final percentage score for the level of training.

Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1 classes will write the standardized level exam through an online computer-based platform or by requesting a paper-based level exam writing if a computer laboratory is unavailable.

The benefits of moving to an online platform include:

- Immediate processing of exam results and a quicker turnaround for exam marks,
- Increased exam protection and security with the removal of paper-based exams,
- The ability to "scramble" questions which enhances security of the exam as questions will be presented in a different sequence for each candidate,
- Colour diagrams can be easily reproduced,
- Diagrams in the exams can be manipulated to clarify details, i.e., zoom-in capabilities, and

- A consistent evaluation process for all examinations with the ability to quickly modify or remove questions as required.

**Scheduling
Ironworker
(Reinforcing)
Level Exams**

The Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1 examination should be requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure. Training providers are required to complete an ITA Examination Request form six weeks prior to the exam scheduled date.

The request for a class writing of online exams must be noted on the ITA Examination Request form. Scheduling and booking an appropriate computer laboratory facility with internet access for the planned exam date must be undertaken by the training provider.

The computer facility is required for a minimum of four hours and the room location of the computer laboratory must be noted on the ITA Examination Request form.

Where a computer facility is not available, paper-based exams must be requested on the ITA Examination Request Form.

**Training
Provider
Component:**

Instructors are expected to follow the *Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings* on pages 5 & 6 of this document to calculate the final in-school percentage score for each apprentice.

**In-School
Technical
Training Marks**

Training providers are expected to enter an in-school percentage score for each apprentice into ITA Direct Access.

As per the *Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings*, the in-school mark for Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1 & 2 is derived from a combination of theory and practical assessments within each training topic.

Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1 in-school marks are calculated by:

- totaling the level *theory* results as noted in the competencies and weightings tables and multiplying the total by 60% to produce a weighted theory percentage score;
- totaling the level *practical* results as noted in the competencies and weightings tables and multiplying the total by 40% to produce a weighted practical percentage score; and
- adding the weighted theory and practical competency results together to determine the final in-school percentage score.

This final percentage score is then entered into ITA Direct Access.

Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 2 in-school marks are calculated by:

- totaling the level *theory* results as noted in the competencies and weightings tables and multiplying the total by 70% to produce a weighted theory percentage score;
- totaling the level *practical* results as noted in the competencies and weightings tables and multiplying the total by 30% to produce a weighted practical percentage score; and
- adding the weighted theory and practical competency results together to determine the final in-school percentage score.

This final percentage score is then entered into ITA Direct Access.

**ITA
Component:**

ITA will enter the standard level examination percentage score in ITA Direct Access.

Standardized Exam Marks

Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1

Once the training provider has entered the in-school percentage score and ITA has entered the level exam percentage score, ITA Direct Access automatically calculates the final percentage score for a level. This final percentage score is calculated by blending the standardized level exam percentage score and the in-school technical training percentage score to determine the final mark for the level.

The in-school technical training (combined theory & practical) is weighted at 80% and the ITA standardized level exam is weighted at 20%. These two scores are combined to determine the final level percentage score. This result is the final percentage score that is recorded in ITA Direct Access.

A percentage score of 70% or greater is required to pass Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1 when the final in-school percentage score and the final ITA standardized level exam percentage score are blended.

Program Results and Eligibility

As the in-school percentage score and the exam percentage score are blended there will be situations where an apprentice will have to repeat one or the other component (in-school training or exam) in order to achieve the required 70% to pass Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1.

In the event that this does occur, the following table outlines the three scenarios an apprentice may encounter once the 80/20 blending is applied and the final mark is less than 70%.

<p>Scenario 1</p> <p>The apprentice receives less than 70% for the in-school training and 70% or greater on the level exam resulting in a final score of less than 70%.</p>	<p>The apprentice will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-take the level in-school technical training. • Receive credit for the exam.
<p>Scenario 2</p> <p>The apprentice receives 70% or greater for the in-school training and less than 70% on the level exam resulting in a final score of less than 70%.</p>	<p>The apprentice will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive credit for the in-school technical training. • Re-write the level exam per ITA exam re-write policy.
<p>Scenario 3</p> <p>The apprentice receives less than 70% for the in-school training and less than 70% on the level exam resulting in a final score of less than 70%.</p>	<p>The apprentice will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-take the level in-school technical training. • Re-write the level exam per ITA exam re-write policy.

In cases where the apprentice receives a mark that is less than 70% for the in-school technical training and still achieves a final blended mark of 70% or greater, credit for the technical training will be granted.

**Calculating
Final
Percentage
Scores**

Level 2

Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 2 Examination

Until further notice, Training Providers delivering the Ironworker (Reinforcing) program will continue using their institution's proprietary examination in the calculation of the apprentices' achievement for Level 2. The percentage weighting of this exam is 30% of the final in-school technical training mark.

Refer to the *Grading Sheet Subject Competencies and Weightings* Level 2 table at the end of this document to determine the calculation process for completing the Level 2 in-school final percentage score.

The final percentage score for Level 2 is to be reported to ITA and must be 70% or greater to pass the level.

**Interprovincial
Red Seal
Examination**

In order to achieve certification with the Red Seal Endorsement, Ironworker (Reinforcing) apprentices are required to write the Ironworker (Reinforcing) Interprovincial Red Seal exam after completing all levels of in-school technical training. Apprentices must have passed all levels of in-school technical training or be approved challengers to sit the exam. A score of 70% or greater is required for a pass.

Training providers should request interprovincial Red Seal or exams via the usual ITA procedure.

The ITA will administer and invigilate Interprovincial Red Seal exams and score and record exam results in ITA Direct Access.

**For more
information
contact:**

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Grading Sheet: Subject Competency and Weightings

PROGRAM: IN-SCHOOL TRAINING: ITA DIRECT ACCESS CODE:		IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 00325RNSE01	
LINE	SUBJECT COMPETENCIES	THEORY WEIGHTING	PRACTICAL WEIGHTING
A	Use of Safe Work Practices	20%	10%
B	Use of Tools and Equipment	10%	10%
C	Organize Work	10%	0%
D	Use Rigging, Hoisting and Lifting Equipment	15%	25%
E	Apply Crane Work Procedures	10%	10%
F	Apply Reinforcing Techniques	20%	35%
G	Apply Pre-stressing/Post-tensioning Techniques	15%	10%
	Total	100%	100%
Calculated by the Training Provider IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) in-school theory & practical subject competency weighting		60%	40%
Training Provider enters final in-school percentage score into ITA Direct Access		IN-SCHOOL %	

Calculated by ITA: In-school Percentage Score ITA Direct Access calculates the percentage weighting once the in-school percentage score is entered. Combined theory and practical subject competency multiplied by	80%
Calculated by ITA: Standard Level Exam Percentage Score ITA Direct Access will calculate the percentage weighting once the standard level exam percentage scores have been entered. The exam score is multiplied by	20%
Calculated by ITA: Final Percentage Score The final percentage score for determining credit is calculated by ITA Direct Access.	FINAL%



PROGRAM: IN-SCHOOL TRAINING: ITA DIRECT ACCESS CODE:		IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 2 00325RN02	
LINE	SUBJECT COMPETENCIES	THEORY WEIGHTING	PRACTICAL WEIGHTING
B	Use of Tools and Equipment	10%	16%
C	Organize Work	20%	16%
D	Use Rigging, Hoisting and Lifting Equipment	20%	18%
E	Apply Crane Work Procedures	15%	0%
F	Apply Reinforcing Techniques	15%	18%
G	Apply Pre-stressing/Post-tensioning Techniques	20%	32%
	Total	100%	100%

Calculated by the Training Provider:		
Ironworker (Reinforcing) in-school theory & practical subject competency weighting	70%	30%
Proprietary Exam Percentage Score The exam score is multiplied by	30%	
Training Provider enters final in-school percentage score into ITA Direct Access	IN-SCHOOL FINAL %	

All apprentices who complete Level 2 of the Ironworker (Reinforcing) program with a FINAL level percentage score of 70% or greater will write the Interprovincial Red Seal examination as their final assessment.

ITA will enter the apprentices' Ironworker (Reinforcing) Interprovincial Red Seal examination percentage score in ITA Direct Access. A minimum percentage score of 70% on the examination is required for a pass.