

Standards Department Advisory

456A Welder Practical Assessment Requirements Summary

Updated Notice Date:	July 8, 2022
Original Effective Date:	March 1, 2017
Primary Program Areas Affected:	Apprenticeship Programs Trades Equivalency Assessments

General Trade Status and Information for Welder

- **Trade Code:** 456A
- **Classification Status:** Non-compulsory
- **Provincial vs Interprovincial Status:** Interprovincial
- **In-school Hours' requirements:** 720
- **On-the-Job Hours' requirements:** 5,280

Scope of Practice:

The *Building Opportunities in the Skilled Trades Act, 2021*, states as follows:

Welder

146. *The scope of practice for the trade of welder includes the following:*

- 1. Using and maintaining tools, material handling equipment and welding equipment.*
- 2. Preparing the work site.*
- 3. Laying out, cutting and forming metals to specification.*
- 4. Fitting sub-assemblies and assemblies together and preparing assemblies for welding.*
- 5. Welding using the shielded metal arc welding, gas metal arc welding, gas tungsten arc welding, flux cored or metal cored arc welding, submerged arc welding and plasma arc welding processes.*
- 6. Carrying out special processes such as welding studs and brazing.*
- 7. Controlling for quality before, during and after welding.*

Summary of changes as of March 1, 2017

Assessment and Examination Requirements for Welder as of March 1, 2017:

- As of March 1, 2017, the trade of Welder requires the successful completion of the Welder Practical Assessment prior to being eligible to attempt the written Certificate of Qualification examination.
- This requirement applies to both Registered Apprentices and Trade Equivalency Assessment Applicants
- Upon successful completion of both the Welder Practical Assessment AND the written certificate of qualification examination, a Certificate of Qualification with a Red Seal endorsement can be issued.

Description of changes as of March 1, 2017: Implementation of Updated Welder Practical Assessment

- A practical assessment was implemented as a co-requisite with the written examination for certification purposes for the trade of 456A Welder as of March 1, 2017, in order to meet requirements set out in the Red Seal Policies and Procedures Manual
- A valid all position welding certificate in Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) issued by the Canadian Welding Bureau (CWB) or the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) is required when requesting a Trade Equivalency Assessment for the Welding trade.

Practical Assessment Details for Registered Apprentices and Trade Equivalency Assessment Applicants

All Apprentices and Trade Qualifiers are required to complete a Welder Practical Assessment prior to the written examination. Upon successful completion of both the practical assessment and the examination, a Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal endorsement can be issued.

Practical Assessment Details for Registered Apprentices:

- A practical assessment must be attempted during the following Reportable Subjects:
 1. Reportable Subject S0780 - Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) Practical III Learning Outcome #5 - Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW);
 2. Reportable Subject S0780 - Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) Practical III Learning Outcome #5 - Shielded Metal Arc Welding SMAW);
 3. Reportable Subject S0779 – Automatic and Semi-Automatic Processes Learning Outcome #4.1 - Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW);
 4. Reportable Subject S0779 – Automatic and Semi-Automatic Processes Learning Outcomes #4.2 and 4.3 - Flux Cored Arc Welding or Metal Cored Arc Welding;
 5. Reportable Subject S0778 - Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW) Practical II Learning Outcome #3 - Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW);
 6. Reportable Subject S0887 – Thermal Cutting Learning Outcome #S0887.1 Oxy Fuel Cutting (NOTE: this process will be completed in Level 1)
- Upon completion of the welding processes, Testing Centres will deliver the results via email to Skilled Trades Ontario at practicals@skilledtradesontario.ca and in writing to the client.
- The issuance of a Certificate of Apprenticeship is not dependent on the apprentice successfully completing the welder practical assessment during their apprenticeship. However, Apprentices that do not successfully complete the practical requirements during their in-school training will have to ensure they have been completed prior to attempting the written examination. A Certificate of Qualification will not be issued until they have shown proof of completing the practical requirement and have passed the written examination.
- An individual is eligible to write the Certificate of Qualification examination in Ontario if he/she has completed an Ontario apprenticeship training program established by Skilled Trades Ontario and completed the Practical assessment requirements.

Practical Assessment Details for Trades Equivalency Assessment Applicants (Non-Apprentices)

- Individuals going through the Trade Equivalency Assessment (“trade qualifiers”) will be required to complete the Welder practical assessment at a designated testing centre in the province and will submit proof of completion with the Trades Equivalency Assessment application. This is necessary in order to be approved to write the written examination.
- Trade Equivalency Assessment applicants must complete six (6) welding processes in a 6 hour practical assessment:
 1. Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW - 3G)
 2. Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW - 3F and 4G)
 3. Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW - 1G)
 4. Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW - 2G)
 5. Flux Cored Arc Welding (FCAW - 3F and 4G)
 6. Oxy-Fuel Cutting
- Experienced Welders who have proof of current corresponding CWB or ASME certifications ('tickets') for any or all Tests 1 to 5, are only required to complete the missing component(s) and the Oxy-Fuel Cutting component of the practical assessment. 'Current' is defined as within a two-year period of the examination application date.
- Welding Testing Centres have been set-up across the province for Trade Equivalency Assessment applicants to register to complete the testing. When a centre has between three (3) to six (6) registrations a practical examination will be scheduled.
- Upon completion of the welding processes, Testing Centres will deliver the results via email to Skilled Trades Ontario at practicals@skilledtradesontario.ca and in writing to the client.
- Upon successful completion of the Practical Assessment, the Trade Equivalency Assessment applicant will submit the results with their application for a Trade Equivalency Assessment.
- As Welder is a non-compulsory trade, holding and maintaining a valid Certificate of Qualification is not legally required;
- An individual is eligible to write the Certificate of Qualification examination in Ontario if his/her application has been approved through Skilled Trades Ontario Trade Equivalency Assessment process.

Process to Schedule Practical Assessment

The applicant will schedule the Welder Practical assessment at a Testing Centre by directly contacting the centre and register to be on a waiting list.

1. Pay the practical assessment fee directly to the Testing Centre. Please note each Testing Centre determines their assessment fees.
 2. Complete the practical assessment and obtain a copy of the results to attach to the Trade Equivalency Assessment application.
 3. Send in the Trade Equivalency Assessment application to Skilled Trades Ontario.
- If his/her application has been approved through Skilled Trades Ontario Trade Equivalency Assessment process, they will be able to attempt the written Certificate of Qualification examination (see process outlined above).

Welding Test Centres have set been up across the province for Trade Equivalency Assessment applicants to register to complete the Assessment. Once a testing centre has a minimum of three (3) to a maximum of six (6) registrations the practical examination will be scheduled.

The following Testing Centres are available for the Welder Practical Assessment:

GTA Region

Institute of Technical Trades
1320 Ellesmere Rd, Unit 1
Scarborough, ON
practicalsitt@gmail.com

UA Local 46
936 Warden Avenue
Scarborough, ON
weldassessment@ualocal46.org

Eastern Ontario

UA Local 71
1250 Ages Drive
Ottawa, ON
practicals@ualocal71.com

Durham College
1610 Champlain Avenue
Whitby, ON
practicals@durhamcollege.ca

St. Lawrence College
2 St. Lawrence Drive
Cornwall, ON
skilledtrades@sl.on.ca

Northern Ontario

UA Local 800
1640 Bancroft Drive
Sudbury, ON
sud-practicals@ualocal800.com

165 Northern Avenue East
Sault Ste. Marie, ON
ssm-practicals@ualocal800.com

UA Local 628
969 Alloy Drive
Thunder Bay, ON
local628@tbaytel.net

Southwestern Ontario

UA Local 527
225 Frobisher Drive
Waterloo, ON
practicals@ua527.com

Technical Training Group
428 Forman Avenue
Stratford, ON
info@technicaltraininggroup.org

Mohawk College
481 Barton Street
Stoney Creek, ON
practicals@mohawkcollege.ca

UA Local 67
195 Dartnall Road
Hamilton, ON
local67@ualocal67.com

Completing the Written Examination (after successful completion of the Practical Assessment)

Process to Schedule Written Certificate of Qualification Examination:

1. Contact Client Services at Skilled Trades Ontario to confirm eligibility to write the examination, provide documentation of welder practical results and pay the examination fee of \$150.00 (plus HST).
2. Schedule the Certificate of Qualification examination by contacting a local MLITSD Apprenticeship Office.

MLITSD delivers Certificate of Qualification examinations on behalf of Skilled Trades Ontario at one of the over 25 MLITSD examination centres across the province.

An appointment is required to write the examination, and MLITSD will only schedule one when the examination fee has been paid to Skilled Trades Ontario.

Who is Affected?

- Current and future apprentices, employers/sponsors
- Skilled Trades Ontario Staff: All staff administrating the Trade Equivalency Assessment for the Welder trade and Client Services staff providing information to prospective Trade Equivalency Assessment applicants
- Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development Staff: All staff administrating the Apprenticeship training program.

Background

The Practical Assessment requirements for the Trade of Welder were implemented in Ontario in March 2017 to meet the necessary requirements for issuing the Red Seal Endorsement.

Policy Number Po1610 of the Red Seal Policies and Procedures Manual 2022 establishes the following:

Practical examinations are required in the Hairstylist and Welder trades to obtain a Red Seal Endorsement.

Practical examination results achieved by a candidate in one P/T must be recognized by other P/Ts.

Resources

- The Ontario Practical Assessment is posted to Skilled Trades Ontario website [here](#).