

Issued: July 16, 2015

Program: Steamfitter Pipefitter

To: ITA Training Providers
Articulation Chair
System Liaison Person
School Districts

Subject: **Steamfitter/Pipefitter Levels 1 -3**
Launch of ITA Standardized Level Exams

RE: **OPSN 2015 014**

Effective Date: August 28, 2015

Summary: This OPSN is a follow-up in reference to OPSN 2014 019 issued September 26, 2014. ITA is introducing standardized exams for **Level 1, 2 & 3** of the **Steamfitter/Pipefitter** program. Classes of apprentice technical training for **Level 1, 2 & 3** of the **Steamfitter/Pipefitter** program that begin after **August 28th, 2015** will be required to sit an ITA Level Exam. The exam will contribute 20% to an apprentice's final mark.

Rationale: ITA is implementing Standardized Level Exams as part of an assessment strategy to ensure consistent outcomes at each program level for apprentices throughout BC.

General Information

Scheduling Exams: Exams are to be requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure. Training providers are required to complete an ITA Exam Request Form six-to-eight weeks prior to the scheduled exam date. ITA will invigilate these exams unless other arrangements are organized between ITA's Exam Department and the training provider.

Calculating Final Percentage Scores For ITA Level Exams

Process – effective October 1, 2014 (refer to Figure 1)

- ITA administers the SLE, records the mark in Direct Access, and reports it to the school. The apprentice is **not** notified when the SLE mark is entered.
- Training providers weight and blend the in-school (80%) and SLE (20%) marks to produce a final mark for the Level (or as indicated in the Assessment Guidelines). That final, blended mark is reported to ITA by the school and recorded in Direct Access.

- Direct Access reports the school's final blended mark for the Level to the apprentice as a single percentage score.
- Once the final Level mark is entered in Direct Access, the system performs a reverse calculation using the SLE mark to determine the in-school mark. All three marks are stored in the apprentice's record, but only the final Level mark is reported on the ITA transcript.

A percentage score of 70% or greater is required to pass when the final in-school percentage score and the final ITA Level exam percentage score are blended.

Figure 1. Process for calculating and reporting marks for technical training with SLE



Interprovincial Red Seal Exam (Final Level)

Certification exam results are **not** blended with in-school technical training results in the final Level of the program. ITA Interprovincial Red Seal exams remain a stand-alone program completion requirement.

In order to achieve certification, **Steamfitter/Pipefitter** apprentices are required to write the **Interprovincial Red Seal** exam after their final level of technical training.

To be eligible to write the Red Seal exam, apprentices must have passed all Levels of in-school technical training. Red Seal exams are requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure

A score of 70% or greater is required for a pass on certification exams.

ITA administers and invigilates the certification exams and records exam results in ITA Direct Access.

For more information

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