

# OFFICIAL PROGRAM STANDARDS NOTICE (OPSN)

Issued: September 5, 2025

Program: Ironworker (Reinforcing)

**To:** SkilledTradesBC Training Providers

**Articulation Committee Chair** 

System Liaison Person

Youth Train in Trades School Districts

Subject: Ironworker (Reinforcing) Program Outline and Program Profile Update

OPSN No.: OPSN 2025 016

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

Summary of Change: Please be advised that a revised Program Outline and Program Profile have been posted to

the **SkilledTradesBC website** for implementation January 1, 2026.

**Details:** The Ironworker (Reinforcing) Program Review was conducted between December 2024

and May 2025 to align BC's Ironworker (Reinforcing) Program Outline to the 2025 Red Seal Occupational Standard (RSOS). The review process resulted in revised content to

meet the current industry standard.

There are no changes to the trade name, total training hours, or number of training levels. There are some changes to the sequencing of technical training, which are outlined in the

attached competency migration chart.

All levels of the revised program will be implemented on January 1, 2026. Please view the

attached implementation plan for details.

Attachments: Ironworker (Reinforcing) Implementation Plan

Ironworker (Reinforcing) Competency Migration Chart

For more information Program Standards Team:

contact: <u>programstandards@skilledtradesbc.ca</u>

cc: All SkilledTradesBC Staff

# Implementation Plan

#### HARMONIZATION OVERVIEW

The Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship (CCDA) is responsible for the Red Seal Program, which develops common interprovincial standards and examinations. The CCDA Harmonization Initiative was introduced with the goal of substantively aligning apprenticeship systems across Canada by making apprenticeship training requirements more consistent in the Red Seal trades.

#### The 4 Harmonization Priorities are:

- 1. Use of Red Seal trade name
- 2. Consistent total training hours (in-school and on-the-job)
- 3. Same number of training levels
- **4.** Consistent **sequencing** of training content, including use of most recent Red Seal Occupational Standard (RSOS).

The Ironworker (Reinforcing) program was initially reviewed as part of the harmonization initiative in 2015.

After initial harmonization, the Red Seal Occupational Standard (RSOS) is reviewed periodically to ensure continued national alignment and to capture current trends, technologies, and practices in the trade.

The Ironworker (Reinforcing) RSOS was subsequently reviewed in 2024 and published in 2025, and a revised BC Program Outline is now being implemented on **January 1**, **2026** to align to these revisions.

#### SUMMARY OF PROGRAM CHANGES

There are no changes to the **trade name**, **total training hours**, or **training levels**. These remain:

Trade Name	Ironworker (Reinforcing)
Technical Training (TT)	420
Work-Based Training (WBT)	3,180
Total Training Hours (TT + WBT)	3,600
Training Levels	2

There are some changes to the **sequencing of training content**, as captured in the **Gaps and Overlaps** section. For full details of program content movement, refer to the competency migration chart.



#### PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT TIMELINES

Activity	Timeframe
Program Outline Workshops	December 2024; May 2025
Program Outline/Profile Draft Review	January-April 2025
Standardized Level Exam (SLE) redevelopment	June-October 2025
Implementation Planning	August 2025
Launch date	January 1, 2026

#### PROGRAM TRANSITION SUMMARY

The SkilledTradesBC Program Standards team consulted with the post-secondary training provider that delivers the Ironworker (Reinforcing) program and considered the input of our internal and external partners in determining the impact of implementing the revised program. The impacts are determined to be minimal and can be mitigated without the requirement for formal mechanisms such as gap training or training provider support.

All levels of the revised program will be implemented on the same date.

<b>Year 0</b> 01/25	2015.L1	2015.L2
<b>Year 1</b> 01/26	2026.L1	2026.L2

#### **EXAMS FOR THE 2026 PROGRAM**

#### **Revised Exams**

A revised Standardized Level Exam (SLE) is undergoing development and validation to align to the revised program.

What is the final mark for apprentices based on if there is no SLE?

For classes that end before the launch of the revised SLE, the final mark for the level will be based solely on in-school assessments.

How will training providers be informed of the launch of an SLE?

An OPSN will be sent to announce the launch of the revised SLE.

# Program Data

#### TRAINING PROVIDERS

• British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)

## **APPRENTICES**

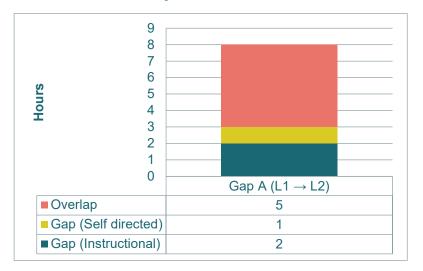
Program Registrations as of August 1, 2025

Program	Status	0TT	2015.L1	2015.L2	Total
Ironworker (Reinforcing)	Active	126	22	13	161
	Inactive	281	14	18	313
	Total	407	36	31	474

#### Notes:

- 1. **0TT:** Apprentices who are registered with SkilledTradesBC but haven't completed any technical training.
- 2. **2015.L2s:** TWs who have completed 2015.L2 are not considered in transition planning as they will not be impacted by the implementation of revised training.
- 3. **Active:** Apprentices for whom activity has been logged with SkilledTradesBC within the last 18 months.
- 4. **Inactive:** Apprentices for whom **no** activity has been logged with SkilledTradesBC within the last 18 months.

# Gaps and Overlaps



#### **GAPS AND OVERLAPS**

A Gap is an estimate of the hours of technical training content that an apprentice will be missing if they transition from the 2015 program to the 2026 program (2015→2026) at a specific level. An apprentice will only transition to the 2026 program once so will only face a gap in their training at that one point.

Gap A (2015.L1→2026.L2) is the technical training content that an apprentice who has completed Level 1 will be missing if they transition into 2026 Level 2.

An Overlap is an estimate of the hours of technical training content that an apprentice will be repeating if they transition from the current program to the 2026 program ( $2015 \rightarrow 2026$ ) at a specific level.

# INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS AND SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING HOURS

**Instructional Hours** consist of the missing content that requires instructional time to address. It is critical to the apprentice's success and is unlikely to be learnt without intervention.

**Self-Directed Learning Hours** consist of the missing content that an apprentice will likely learn in the context of other tasks or levels in technical training, on the job, or through self-study. It is not considered critical to the apprentice's success.



### GAP A: 2015.L1 -> 2026.L2

This table lists the content that an apprentice will be **missing** if they have completed Level 1 (2015.L1) and then take the revised Level 2 (2026.L2).

Competency	Missing Content	Achievement Criteria	Content Migration	Instructional Hours*	Self-directed Hours**
A3 Participate in healthy and respectful work environment	New competency from revised RSOS. Learning tasks:  Describe personal health and well-being Describe techniques to manage personal health and well-being Describe aspects of professionalism		NEW	1	1
I2 Place unbonded post- tensioning systems	Learning task:      Describe specifications and standards     Describe reasons and procedures for de-stressing		2015.L1/L2 → 2026.L1	1	0
			TOTAL	2 hours	1 hours

<sup>\*</sup>Instructional Hours are hours of content that an apprentice would need dedicated instruction to cover.

### OVERLAP A: 2015.L1 -> 2026.L2

This table lists the content that an apprentice will be **repeating** if they have completed 2015.L1 and then take 2026.L2 and 2026.L3. Overlaps are identified so that instructors and apprentices are aware of the repeated content. There may be opportunities for transitioned 2015.L1 apprentices to use some of their overlap time to study their gap content.

Competency	Repeating Content	Content Migration	Hours
D3 Use Mechanical Moving Equipment	2015.L1 content combined into 2026.L3  Learning tasks:  Describe types of mechanical moving equipment.  Describe uses for mechanical moving equipment.  Use mechanical moving equipment.	2015.L1/L2 -> 2026.L2	2
I3 Place multi-strand and bonded post-tensioning systems	Learning tasks:      Describe bonded post-tensioning systems (strand and bar)      Describe placing tendons	2015.L1/L2 → 2026.L2	3
		TOTAL	5 hours

<sup>\*\*</sup>Self-Directed Hours are hours of content that an apprentice would be able to cover through self-study, on the job or in the context of other tasks/levels.



#### Key

2015.L = 2015 Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level (1, 2) 2026.L = 2026 Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level (1, 2) RSOS = Red Seal Occupational Standard Black Text = No change to level

Blue Text = Content moved to lower level =  $2015.L2 \rightarrow 2026.L1$ . Purple Text = Content moved to higher level =  $2015.L1 \rightarrow 2026.L2$ .

Green Text = New content added Red Text = Content removed

### **Summary - Competency Migration**

The BC Occupational Analysis Chart (OAC) was aligned to the content of the 2025 Red Seal Occupational Standard (RSOS). Therefore, <u>competencies have been renamed and restructured</u>. This chart shows the finalized competency distribution for the Ironworker (Reinforcing) (2026) program. It summarizes the major changes to the competencies from the 2015 program to the 2026 program. For details, see the charts below.

2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2026.L1)		2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 2 (2026.L2)	
Line A	MAINTAIN SAFE AND HEALTHY WORKPLACE	Line A	MAINTAIN SAFE AND HEALTHY WORKPLACE
	A1 Maintain safe work environment		
	A2 Use personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment		
New from 2025 RSOS	A3 Participate in healthy and respectful work environment		
Line B	USE AND MAINTAIN TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT	Line B	USE AND MAINTAIN TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT
	B1 Use hand tools		
	B2 Use power tools		B2 Use power tools
	B3 Use access equipment		
New from 2025 RSOS	B4 Use material handling equipment		
	B5 Use measurement, layout, and surveying tools and equipment		B5 Use measurement, layout, and surveying tools and equipment
	B6 Use welding and thermal cutting equipment		B6 Use welding and thermal cutting equipment
Line C	ORGANIZE WORK	Line C	ORGANIZE WORK
	C1 Organize materials and supplies		
	C2 Perform layout		C2 Perform layout
	C3 Use drawings and documentation		C3 Use drawings and documentation
		New from 2025 RSOS	C4 Plan tasks
	C5 Use mathematics		C5 Use mathematics
Line D	USE COMMUNICATION, MENTORING, AND CONTINUOUS LEARNING TECHNIQUES	Line D	USE COMMUNICATION, MENTORING, AND CONTINUOUS LEARNING TECHNIQUES
	D1 Use communication techniques		
		New from 2025 RSOS	D2 Use mentoring techniques
		New from 2025 RSOS	D3 Maintain continuous learning
Line E	PLAN LIFT	Line E	PLAN LIFT
	E1 Assess load		
	E2 Perform pre-lift analysis		E2 Perform pre-lift analysis

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2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2026.L1)		2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 2 (2026.L2)	
	E3 Select rigging, hoisting, and positioning equipment		
	E4 Secure lift area		
Line F	USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND POSITIONING EQUIPMENT	Line F	USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND POSITIONING EQUIPMENT
	F1 Inspect rigging, hoisting, and positioning equipment		F1 Inspect rigging, hoisting, and positioning equipment
	F2 Use ropes and slings		F2 Use ropes and slings
	F3 Use rigging and hoisting equipment		F3 Use rigging and hoisting equipment
		2015.L1/L2 → 2026.L2	F4 Use mechanical moving equipment
	F5 Perform post-lift activities		
Line G	PERFORM MOBILIZATION, ERECTION, AND DEMOBILIZATION OF CRANES	Line G	PERFORM MOBILIZATION, ERECTION, AND DEMOBILIZATION OF CRANES
	G1 Identify and mobilize cranes		
			G2 Participate in erecting lattice boom cranes, tower cranes, derricks and components
			G3 Participate in demobilization and disassembly of cranes
Line H	FABRICATE AND INSTALL REINFORCING MATERIALS	Line H	FABRICATE AND INSTALL REINFORCING MATERIALS
	H1 Apply fundamentals of reinforcing concrete		H1 Apply fundamentals of reinforcing concrete
	H2 Cut and bend reinforcing materials		H2 Cut and bend reinforcing materials
	H3 Place, tie, splice, and pre-fabricate reinforcing materials		H3 Place, tie, splice, and pre-fabricate reinforcing materials
Line I	APPLY POST-TENSIONING TECHNIQUES	Line I	APPLY POST-TENSIONING TECHNIQUES
	I1 Describe fundamentals of pre-stressed systems		
2015.L1/L2 → 2026.L1	I2 Place unbonded post-tensioning systems		
		2015.L1/L2 → 2026.L2	I3 Place multi-strand and bonded post-tensioning systems

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# **Details - Competency Migration**

This chart shows where content from the 2015 Ironworker (Reinforcing) program (2015.L) moved to in the 2026 Ironworker (Reinforcing) program (2026.L) and includes details of content that was moved or split across levels.

# 2015 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2015.L1) to 2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2026.L1)

2015 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2015.L1)	2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2026.L1)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
Line A – USE SAFE WORK PRACTICES	Line A – MAINTAIN SAFE AND HEALTHY WORKPLACE		
A1 Control Workplace Hazards	A1 Maintain safe work environment		
A2 Interpret OHS Regulations and WCB Standards	A1 Maintain safe work environment		
A3 Attain Confined Space Awareness Training	A1 Maintain safe work environment		Attaining Confined Space Awareness certification is outside of scope of the Program Outline. Moved into A1 as learning task content.
A4 Use Fall Protection Systems	A2 Use personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment		
A5 Use Personal Protective Equipment	A2 Use personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment		
A6 Use Fire Safety Procedures	A1 Maintain safe work environment		
A7 Attain First Aid Certification	A1 Maintain safe work environment		Attaining First Aid certification is outside of scope of the Program Outline. Moved into A1 as learning task content.
Line B - USE TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT	Line B – USE AND MAINTAIN TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT		
B1 Use Hand Tools	B1 Use hand tools		
B2 Use Measurement and Layout Tools	B5 Use measurement, layout, and surveying tools and equipment		
B3 Use Power Tools	B2 Use power tools		
B4 Use Welding and Cutting Tools	B2 Use power tools		
	B6 Use welding and thermal cutting equipment		
B5 Use Ladders and Platforms	B3 Use access equipment		
B6 Use Concrete Connecting and Anchoring Tools and Equipment	B2 Use power tools		
Line C - ORGANIZE WORK	Line C - ORGANIZE WORK		
	Line D – USE COMMUNICATION, MENTORING, AND		
	CONTINUOUS LEARNING TECHNIQUES		
C1 Use Mathematics	C2 Perform layout		
	C3 Use drawings and documentation		

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2015 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2015.L1)	2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2026.L1)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
	C5 Use mathematics		
C2 Interpret Drawings and Specifications	C3 Use drawings and documentation		
C3 Communicate with Others	D1 Use communication techniques		Content on inclusive communication added.
C4 Handle Materials	C1 Organize materials and supplies		
Line D – USE RIGGING, HOISTING AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT	Line F – USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND POSITIONING EQUIPMENT		
D1 Use Ropes and Slings	F2 Use ropes and slings		
D2 Use Rigging and Hoisting Equipment	F3 Use rigging and hoisting equipment		
D3 Use Mechanical Moving Equipment		2015.L1 → 2026.L2	Mechanical moving equipment content moved to Level 2 Competency F4.
Line E – APPLY CRANE WORK PROCEDURES	Line F – USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND POSITIONING EQUIPMENT Line G – PERFORM MOBILIZATION, ERECTION, AND DEMOBILIZATION OF CRANES		
E1 Apply Lifting Practices for Cranes	F3 Use rigging and hoisting equipment		Communication practices for crane rigging moved to F3.
	G1 Identify and mobilize cranes		
Line F - APPLY REINFORCING TECHNIQUES	Line H – FABRICATE AND INSTALL REINFORCING MATERIALS		
F1 Apply Principles of Reinforcing Concrete	H1 Apply fundamentals of reinforcing concrete		
F2 Install and Fabricate Reinforcing Material	H2 Cut and bend reinforcing materials		
	H3 Place, tie, splice, and pre-fabricate reinforcing materials		
Line G – APPLY PRE-STRESSING/POST-TENSIONING TECHNIQUES	Line I – APPLY POST-TENSIONING TECHNIQUES		
G1 Describe Principles of Pre-Stressed Systems	I1 Describe fundamentals of pre-stressed systems		
G2 Place Unbonded Post-Tensioning Systems	I2 Place unbonded post-tensioning systems		
G3 Place Bonded Post-Tensioning systems	I1 Describe fundamentals of pre-stressed systems	2015.L1/L2 → 2026.L2	Content on the fundamentals of bonded post-tensioning systems remains in Level 1 competency I1. Advanced content moved to Level 2 I3 Place multi-strand and bonded post-tensioning systems

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2015 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2015.L1)	2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 1 (2026.L1)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
	NEW COMPETENCIES ADDED TO LEVEL 1		
	Line A – MAINTAIN SAFE AND HEALTHY WORKPLACE		
	A3 Participate in healthy and respectful work environment	NEW	New content from revised RSOS.
	Line B – USE AND MAINTAIN TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT		
	B4 Use material handling equipment		New sub-task 2.05 in 2025 RSOS to cover forklift content.
	Line C – ORGANIZE WORK		
	C2 Perform layout		Content was in the 2015.L program but has now been expanded to a competency; it is now task 3.02 in the revised RSOS.

This is the end of the 2015 Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1 to 2026 Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 1 comparative. The 2015 Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 2 to 2026 Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 2 comparative begins on the next page.

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# 2015 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 2 (2015.L2) to 2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 2 (2026.L2)

2015 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 2 (2015.L2)	2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 2 (2026.L2)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
Line B – USE TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT	Line B – USE AND MAINTAIN TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT		
B2 Use Measurement and Layout Tools	B5 Use measurement, layout, and surveying tools and equipment		
B4 Use Welding and Cutting Tools	B2 Use power tools		
	B6 Use welding and thermal cutting equipment		
Line C - ORGANIZE WORK	Line C - ORGANIZE WORK		
C1 Use Mathematics	C5 Use mathematics		
C2 Interpret Drawings and Specifications	C3 Use drawings and documentation		
Line D – USE RIGGING, HOISTING AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT	LINE F – USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND POSITIONING EQUIPMENT		
D1 Use Ropes and Slings	F1 Inspect rigging, hoisting, and positioning equipment		
	F2 Use ropes and slings		
D2 Use Rigging and Hoisting Equipment	F3 Use rigging and hoisting equipment		
D4 Apply Procedures for Heavy Rigging and Marine Rigging			Procedures specific to heavy rigging and marine rigging removed; not in 2025 RSOS or previous 2015 National Occupational Analysis (NOA).
Line E – APPLY CRANE WORK PROCEDURES	Line G – PERFORM MOBILIZATION, ERECTION, AND DEMOBILIZATION OF CRANES		
E1 Apply Lifting Practices for Cranes	G1 Identify and mobilize cranes		
E2 Assemble and Disassemble Cranes	G2 Participate in erecting lattice boom cranes, tower cranes, derricks and components		
	G3 Participate in demobilization and disassembly of cranes		
Line F - APPLY REINFORCING TECHNIQUES	Line H - FABRICATE AND INSTALL REINFORCING MATERIALS		
F1 Apply Principles of Reinforcing Concrete	H1 Apply fundamentals of reinforcing concrete		
F2 Install and Fabricate Reinforcing Material	H2 Cut and bend reinforcing materials		
	H3 Place, tie, splice, and pre-fabricate reinforcing materials		
Line G - APPLY PRE-STRESSING/POST-TENSIONING TECHNIQUES	Line I – APPLY POST-TENSIONING TECHNIQUES		

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2015 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 2 (2015.L2)	2026 IRONWORKER (REINFORCING) LEVEL 2 (2026.L2)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
G2 Place Un-bonded Post-Tensioning Systems		2015.L1/L2 → 2026.L1	Learning task content moved to level 1 I2 Place unbonded post-tensioning systems. Level 2 focus is on multi-strand and bonded post-tensioning systems.
			Achievement Criteria moved to Level 2 C3 Use drawings and documentation: "The learner will be able to analyse a post-tensioning drawing and interpret specifications as required."
G3 Place Bonded Post-Tensioning Systems	I3 Place multi-strand and bonded post-tensioning systems		
	NEW COMPETENCIES ADDED TO LEVEL 2		
	Line C - ORGANIZE WORK		
	C4 Plan tasks		Was previously only in Generalist but is now in Reinforcing as well. RSOS sub-task 3.04.
	Line D – USE COMMUNICATION, MENTORING, AND CONTINUOUS LEARNING TECHNIQUES		
	D2 Use mentoring techniques	NEW	New content from revised RSOS.
	D3 Maintain continuous learning	NEW	New content from revised RSOS.
	Line F – USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND POSITIONING EQUIPMENT		
	F4 Use mechanical moving equipment		Was in program content in 2015.L1 as D3 Use Mechanical Lifting Equipment. Moved to Level 2.

This is the end of the 2015 Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 2 to 2026 Ironworker (Reinforcing) Level 2 comparative.

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