

OFFICIAL PROGRAM STANDARDS NOTICE (OPSN)

Issued: September 23, 2025

Program(s): Boilermaker

To: SkilledTradesBC Training Providers
Youth Train in Trades School Districts

Subject: **Boilermaker Program Outline and Program Profile Update**

OPSN No.: OPSN 2025 020

Effective Date: April 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 April 1, 2026.

Details: The Boilermaker Program Review was conducted in May 2025 to align BC's Boilermaker 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 minimal 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 April 1, 2026. For details, including information about Standardized Level Exams (SLEs), please view the attached implementation plan.

Attachments: Boilermaker Implementation Plan
Boilermaker Competency Migration Chart

For more information contact: Program Standards Team:
programstandards@skilledtradesbc.ca

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 Boilermaker program was initially reviewed as part of the harmonization initiative in 2017 (first harmonization year for trade).

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 Boilermaker RSOS was subsequently reviewed in 2024 and published in 2025; a revised BC Program Outline is now being implemented on April 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**. They remain:

Trade name	Boilermaker
Technical Training (TT)	450
Work-Based Training (WBT)	4,950
Total Training Hours (TT + WBT)	5,400
Training Levels	3

There are no changes to the **sequencing of training content**, as captured in the **Gaps and Overlaps** section at the end of this document.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT TIMELINES

Activity	Timeframe
Program Outline Workshop	May 2025
Program Outline/Profile Draft Review	June-August 2025
Standardized Level Exam (SLE) redevelopment	September 2025
Implementation Planning	September 2025
Launch Date	April 1, 2026

PROGRAM TRANSITION SUMMARY

The SkilledTradesBC Program Standards team consulted with the post-secondary training provider that delivers the Boilermaker program and considered the input of our internal and external partners in determining the impact of implementing the revised program. Program implementation does not require formal mechanisms such as gap training or training provider support.

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

Year 0 04/25	2017.L1	2017.L2	2017.L3
Year 1 04/26	2026.L1	2026.L2	2026.L3

EXAMS FOR THE 2026 PROGRAM

Revised Exams

A revised Standardized Level Exam (SLE) for Level 2 is scheduled to be implemented with the revised program. As per the credentialing model for this program, there is no SLE for Level 1.

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

An OPSN will be sent to announce the launch of the revised Level 2 SLEs.

Program Data

TRAINING PROVIDERS

- British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)

APPRENTICES

Program Registrations as of September 1, 2025

Program	Status	OTT	2017.L1	2017.L2	2017.L3	Total
Boilermaker	Active	0	31	26	22	79
	Inactive	0	9	5	12	26
	Total	0	40	31	34	105

Notes:

- OTT:** Apprentices who are registered with SkilledTradesBC but haven't completed any technical training.
- 2017.L3s:** TWs who have completed 2017.L3 are not considered in transition planning as they will not be impacted by the implementation of revised training.
- Active:** Apprentices for whom activity has been logged with SkilledTradesBC within the last 18 months.
- 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 2017 program to the 2026 program (**2017→2026**) at a specific level.

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 (2017.L→2026.L) at a specific level.

ARE THERE GAPS OR OVERLAPS FOR THIS PROGRAM CHANGE?

No. The program review resulted in an amount of content movement that was not significant enough for gaps or overlaps to occur. Additionally, the amount of new content at early levels that an apprentice moving between programs will be required to catch up on is minimal.

Program Outline Review Details

Key

Black Text = No change to level
CL = Current Level
HL = Harmonized level

Blue Text = Content moved to lower level = HL←CL
Purple Text = Content moved to higher level = CL→HL
Green Text = New content added

Summary - Competency Migration

The BC Occupational Analysis Chart (OAC) was aligned to the structure of the Red Seal Occupational Standard (RSOS). Therefore, all of the competencies have been renamed and restructured. This chart shows the finalized competency distribution for the Boilermaker program. It summarizes the major changes to the competencies. For details, see the charts below.

BOILERMAKER 2026 Foundation (2026.FND)		BOILERMAKER 2026 LEVEL 2 (2026.L2)		BOILERMAKER 2026 LEVEL 3 (2026.L3)	
Line A	PRACTICE SAFE WORK PRACTICES				
N/A	A1 Use personal protective equipment				
N/A	A2 Use fall protection systems				
N/A	A3 Use fire safety procedures				
N/A	A4 Control workplace hazards				
N/A	A5 Interpret OHS regulations and WorkSafeBC standards				
N/A	A6 Monitor confined space				
Line B	USE TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT	Line B	USE TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT	Line B	USE TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT
N/A	B1 Use hand tools				
N/A	B2 Use power tools and shop fabrication tools	N/A	B2 Use power tools and shop fabrication tools	N/A	B2 Use power tools and shop fabrication tools
N/A	B3 Use cutting tools and equipment	N/A	B3 Use cutting tools and equipment	N/A	B3 Use cutting tools and equipment
N/A	B4 Use work platforms and access equipment	N/A	B4 Use work platforms and access equipment	N/A	B4 Use work platforms and access equipment
Line C	USE DOCUMENTATION AND PRACTICE ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS	Line C	USE DOCUMENTATION AND PRACTICE ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS	Line C	USE DOCUMENTATION AND PRACTICE ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS
N/A	C1 Perform trade math				
N/A	C2 Use drawings and specifications	N/A	C2 Use drawings and specifications	N/A	C2 Use drawings and specifications
N/A	C3 Handle materials and components	N/A	C3 Handle materials and components	N/A	C3 Handle materials and components
N/A	C4 Use communication and mentoring techniques			N/A	C4 Use communication and mentoring techniques
NEW	C5 Organize project tasks and procedures				
Line D	PERFORM CUTTING AND WELDING ACTIVITIES	Line D	PERFORM CUTTING AND WELDING ACTIVITIES	Line D	
N/A	D1 Cut material	N/A	D1 Cut material		
N/A	D2 Perform welding	N/A	D2 Perform welding		
Line E	USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT	Line E	USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT	Line E	USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT
N/A	E1 Plan lifts	N/A	E1 Plan lifts	N/A	E1 Plan lifts

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BOILERMAKER 2026 Foundation (2026.FND)		BOILERMAKER 2026 LEVEL 2 (2026.L2)		BOILERMAKER 2026 LEVEL 3 (2026.L3)	
N/A	E2 Rig loads	N/A	E2 Rig loads	N/A	E2 Rig loads
N/A	E3 Hoist loads	N/A	E3 Hoist loads	N/A	E3 Hoist loads
				N/A	E4 Fabricate rigging equipment
Line F	PERFORM LAY OUT, FABRICATION AND ASSEMBLY OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	Line F	PERFORM LAY OUT, FABRICATION AND ASSEMBLY OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	Line F	PERFORM LAY OUT, FABRICATION AND ASSEMBLY OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS
N/A	F1 Perform fabrication	N/A	F1 Perform fabrication	N/A	F1 Perform fabrication
N/A	F2 Align and fit vessels and components	N/A	F2 Align and fit vessels and components	N/A	F2 Align and fit vessels and components
N/A	F3 Fasten components	N/A	F3 Fasten components	N/A	F3 Fasten components
LINE G	PERFORM MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES AND REPAIR OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	LINE G	PERFORM MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES AND REPAIR OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	LINE G	PERFORM MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES AND REPAIR OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS
N/A	G1 Inspect and test vessels and components	N/A	G1 Inspect and test vessels and components	N/A	G1 Inspect and test vessels and components
N/A	G2 Service vessels and components	N/A	G2 Service vessels and components	N/A	G2 Service vessels and components
N/A	G3 Remove and dismantle vessels and components	N/A	G3 Remove and dismantle vessels and components	N/A	G3 Remove and dismantle vessels and components

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Details – Competency Migration

This chart shows **where content from the current Boilermaker program (CL) moved to in the 2026 Boilermaker program (2026.L)** and includes details of content that was moved or split across levels.

CURRENT “LEVEL 1” TO 2026 FOUNDATION

CURRENT LEVEL 1 (CL1)	2026 FDN (2026.FND)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
Line A PERFORM SAFETY-RELATED FUNCTIONS	Line A PRACTICE SAFE WORK PRACTICES		
A1 Use personal protective equipment	A1 Use personal protective equipment	N/A	
A2 Use fall protection systems	A2 Use fall protection systems	N/A	
A3 Use fire safety procedures	A3 Use fire safety procedures	N/A	
A4 Control workplace hazards	A4 Control workplace hazards	N/A	
A5 Interpret OHS regulations and WorkSafeBC standards	A5 Interpret OHS regulations and WorkSafeBC standards	N/A	
A6 Monitor confined space	A6 Monitor confined space	N/A	
Line B USE TOOLS, EQUIPMENT AND WORK PLATFORMS	LINE B USE TOOLS AND EUQIPMENT		
B1 Use hand tools	B1 Use hand tools	N/A	
B2 Use power tools and shop fabrication tools	B2 Use power tools and shop fabrication tools	N/A	
B3 Use cutting tools and equipment	B3 Use cutting tools and equipment	N/A	
B4 Use work platforms and access equipment	B4 Use work platforms and access equipment	N/A	
Line C ORGANIZE WORK	Line C USE DOCUMENTATION AND PRACTICE ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS		
C1 Use mathematics	C1 Perform trade math	N/A	
C2 Use drawings and specifications	C2 Use drawings and specifications	N/A	
C3 Handle materials and components	C3 Handle materials and components	N/A	
C4 Use communication and mentoring techniques	C4 Use communication and mentoring techniques	N/A	
N/A	C5 Organize project tasks and procedures	New	
Line D PERFORM CUTTING AND WELDING ACTIVITIES	Line D PERFORM CUTTING AND WELDING ACTIVITIES		
D1 Cut material	D1 Cut material	N/A	
D2 Perform welding	D2 Perform welding	N/A	
Line E USE RIGGING, HOISTING AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT	Line E USE RIGGING, HOISTING AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT		
E1 Plan lift	E1 Plan lift	N/A	

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CURRENT LEVEL 1 (CL1)	2026 FDN (2026.FND)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
E2 rig loads	E2 rig loads	N/A	
E3 hoist loads	E3 hoist loads	N/A	
Line F LAYOUT, FABRICATE AND ASSEMBLE VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	Line F PERFORM LAY OUT, FABRICATION AND ASSEMBLY OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS		
F1 Perform fabrication	F1 Perform fabrication	N/A	
F2 Align and fit vessels and components	F2 Align and fit vessels and components	N/A	
F3 Fasten components	F3 Fasten components	N/A	
Line G MAINTAIN, UPGRADE, REPAIR VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	Line G PERFORM MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES AND REPAIR OF VESSELS AND COMPEONTS		
G1 Inspect and test vessels and components	G1 Inspect and test vessels and components	N/A	
G2 Service vessels and components	G2 Service vessels and components	N/A	
G3 Remove and dismantle vessels and components	G3 Remove and dismantle vessels and components	N/A	

CURRENT LEVEL 2 TO 2026 LEVEL 2

CURRENT LEVEL 2 (CL2)	2026 Level 2 (2026.L2)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
Line B USE TOOLS, EQUIPMENT AND WORK PLATFORMS	Line B USE TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT		
B2 Use power tools and shop fabrication tools	B2 Use power tools and shop fabrication tools	N/A	
B3 Use cutting tools and equipment	B3 Use cutting tools and equipment	N/A	
B4 Use work platforms and access equipment	B4 Use work platforms and access equipment	N/A	
Line C Organize work	Line C USE DOCUMENTATION AND PRACTICE ORGANIZATION SKILLS		
C2 Use drawings and specifications	C2 Use drawings and specifications	N/A	
C3 Handle materials and components	C3 Handle materials and components	N/A	
Line D PERFORM CUTTING AND WELDING ACTIVITIES	Line D PERFORM CUTTGING AND WELDING ACTIVITIES		
D1 cut material	D1 cut material	N/A	
D2 perform welding	D2 perform welding	N/A	
Line E USE RIGGING, HOISTING AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT	Line E USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT		
E1 Plan lifts	E1 Plan lifts	N/A	

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CURRENT LEVEL 2 (CL2)	2026 Level 2 (2026.L2)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
E2 Rig loads	E2 Rig loads	N/A	
E3 Hoist loads	E3 Hoist loads	N/A	
Line F LAY OUT, FABRICATE AND ASSEMBLE VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	Line F PERFORM LAYOUT, FABRICATION AND ASSEMBLY OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS		
F1 Perform fabrication	F1 Perform fabrication	N/A	
F2 Align and fit vessels and components	F2 Align and fit vessels and components	N/A	
F3 Fasten components	F3 Fasten components	N/A	
Line G MAINTAIN, UPGRADE, REPAIR VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	Line G PERFORM MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES AND REPAIR OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS		
G1 Inspect and test vessels and components	G1 Inspect and test vessels and components	N/A	
G2 Service vessels and components	G2 Service vessels and components	N/A	
G3 Remove and dismantle vessels and components	G3 Remove and dismantle vessels and components	N/A	

CURRENT LEVEL 3 TO 2026 LEVEL 3

CURRENT LEVEL 3 (CL3)	2026 Level 3 (2026.L3)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
Line B USE TOOLS, EQUIPMENT AND WORK PLATFORMS	Line B USE TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT		
B2 Use power tools and shop fabrication tools	B2 Use power tools and shop fabrication tools	N/A	
B3 Use cutting tools and equipment	B3 Use cutting tools and equipment	N/A	
B4 Use communications and mentoring techniques	B4 Use communications and mentoring techniques	N/A	
Line C ORGANIZE WORK	Line C USE DOCUMENTATION AND PRACTICE ORGANIZATION SKILLS		
C2 Use drawings and specifications	C2 Use drawings and specifications	N/A	
C3 Handle materials and components	C3 Handle materials and components	N/A	
C4 Use communication and mentoring techniques	C4 Use communication and mentoring techniques	N/A	
Line D PERFORM CUTTING AND WELDING ACTIVITIES	Line D PERFORM CUTTING AND WELDING ACTIVITIES		
D1 Cut material	D1 Cut material	N/A	
D2 Perform welding	D2 Perform welding	N/A	

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CURRENT LEVEL 3 (CL3)	2026 Level 3 (2026.L3)	MIGRATION	DETAILS
Line E USE RIGGING, HOISTING AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT	Line E USE RIGGING, HOISTING, AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT		
E1 Plan lifts	E1 Plan lifts	N/A	
E2 Rig loads	E2 Rig loads	N/A	
E3 Hoist loads	E3 Hoist loads	N/A	
E4 Fabricate rigging equipment	E4 Fabricate rigging equipment	N/A	
Line F LAY OUT, FABRICATE AND ASSEMBLE VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	Line F PERFORM LAY OUT, FABRICATION AND ASSEMBLY OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS		
F1 Perform fabrication	F1 Perform fabrication	N/A	
F2 Align and fit vessels and components	F2 Align and fit vessels and components	N/A	
F3 Fasten components	F3 Fasten components	N/A	
Line G MAINTAIN, UPGRADE, REPAIR VESSELS AND COMPONENTS	Line G PERFORM MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES AND REPAIR OF VESSELS AND COMPONENTS		
G1 Inspect and test vessels and components	G1 Inspect and test vessels and components	N/A	
G2 Service vessels and components	G2 Service vessels and components	N/A	
G3 Remove and dismantle vessels and components	G3 Remove and dismantle vessels and components	N/A	