

OFFICIAL PROGRAM STANDARDS NOTICE (OPSN)**ISSUED: JANUARY 16, 2026****Program(s): WELDER**

To: SkilledTradesBC Training Providers
Articulation Chair
System Liaison Person
Youth Train in Trades School Districts

Subject: **WELDER Interprovincial Exams aligned to the 2023 RSOS will be implemented**

OPSN No: OPSN 2026 002

From: SkilledTradesBC Program Standards

Effective Date: February 23, 2026

Summary: Interprovincial (IP) exams aligned to the 2023 **Welder** Red Seal Occupational Standard (RSOS) will be implemented by SkilledTradesBC as of February 23, 2026. Candidates who write a **Welder** IP exam on or after February 23, 2026, will receive an exam aligned to the 2023 RSOS.

IP Table: The IP table can be found at [Welder | SkilledTradesBC](https://www.skilledtradesbc.ca/trades/welder)

 **Welder**
Inter-provincial examinations – Tasks and related number of questions
Number of questions on each exam - 125

Based on 2023 RSOS

Major Work Activity	Task	Number of Questions
A – PERFORMS COMMON OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS	Task 1 – Maintains tools and equipment Task 2 – Uses access and material handling equipment Task 3 – Performs safety-related activities Task 4 – Organizes work Task 5 – Performs routine trade activities Task 6 – Uses communications and mentoring techniques	20 4 3 4 3 6 0
B – PERFORMS LAYOUT AND FABRICATION OF COMPONENTS FOR WELDING	Task 7 – Performs layout Task 8 – Fabricates components	28 12 16
C – PERFORMS CUTTING AND GOUGING	Task 9 – Uses tools and equipment for non-thermal cutting and grinding Task 10 – Uses oxy-fuel gas cutting (OFC) process for cutting and gouging Task 11 – Uses plasma arc cutting (PAC) process for cutting and gouging Task 12 – Uses air carbon arc cutting (CAC-A) process for cutting and gouging	23 6 7 6 4
D – PERFORMS WELDING PROCESSES	Task 13 – Welds using shielded metal arc welding (SMAW) process Task 14 – Welds using flux core arc welding (FCAW), metal arc welding (MCAW) and gas metal arc welding (GMAW) processes Task 15 – Welds using gas tungsten arc welding (GTAW) process Task 16 – Welds using submerged arc welding (SAW) process	54 18 18 13 5
		125

Details: The Interprovincial Red Seal exam is a summative assessment intended to test an apprentice's trade knowledge gained through both on-the-job experience and technical training. Exam questions are developed by certified trade worker subject matter experts (SMEs) as well as instructors and are intended to reflect trade practices in Canada. The exams are edited, translated, and peer reviewed by additional SMEs before they are implemented. The exams are developed to test the sub-tasks of the most recent Red Seal Occupational Standard.

The Welder 2023 RSOS can be [downloaded here](https://www.skilledtradesbc.ca/trades/welder).

A comparative analysis of the sub-task changes from the previous standard can be found on the SkilledTradesBC [trade page](https://www.skilledtradesbc.ca/trades/welder).

For more information contact:

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