

Issued: April 13, 2018

Program: Welder

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

RE: OPSN 2018 010

Effective Date: May 1, 2018

Information: ITA is introducing standardized exams for Foundation, Level 1 and 2 of the **Harmonized** Welder program. Classes of technical training for Foundation, Level 1 and 2 of the Welder program that begin, **on or, after May 1, 2018**, will be required to write an ITA Standardized Level Exam. The exam will contribute 20% to an apprentice's final mark.

An [Exam Weighting Chart](#) for Foundation, Level 1 and 2 is on ITA's website. This chart shows the approximate percentage of weighting per General Area of Competency (GAC).

Rationale: ITA has implemented 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 Percentage Scores for ITA Level Exams

Process – effective October 1, 2014

- 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.

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. Certification exams remain a stand-alone program completion requirement.

In order to achieve certification, 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 Interprovincial exams.

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

For more information

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cc:

ITA Staff