

**Issued: August 11, 2015**

**Program: Plumber**

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

**Subject:** **Plumber Levels 1 -3**  
**Launch of ITA Standardized Level Exams**

**RE:** **OPSN 2015 016**

**Effective Date:** December 31, 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 **Plumber** program. Classes of apprentice technical training for **Level 1, 2 & 3** of the **Plumber** program that begin after **December 31<sup>st</sup>, 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

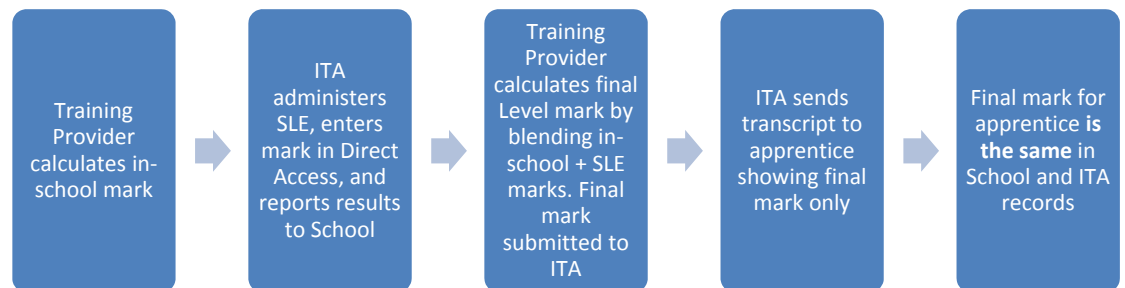
**Process – effective October 1, 2014** (*refer to Figure 1*)

- 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, **Plumber** 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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