

**Issued: December 17, 2015**

**Program: Welder**

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

**Subject:** **RETRACTION OF OPSN 2014 014, 2013 024, 2013 014**

**OPSN No.:** **OPSN 2015 029**

**Effective Date:** Topic 1: January 1, 2016  
Topics 2 – 8: Immediately

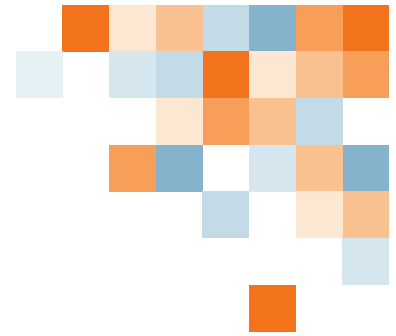
**Summary:** The content of this **OPSN 2015 029** shall supersede content found in the OPSN documents below.  
ITA rescinds the following OPSNs:

- 2014 014 – Reactivation of Welder B and A Modular Pathway (July 25, 2014)
- 2013 024 – Launch of the new welder apprenticeship program, assessment guidelines and trainee transition information (November 15, 2013)
- 2013 014 – Transition from Welder C to Welder Foundation and ITA Standardized Level Exams for the Welder Foundation Program (August 16, 2013)

**Rationale:** Conflicting information in the above OPSNs have caused confusion.

**Topics covered in this OPSN**

1. Exams at the Final Level of Training
2. Welder Modular Pathway
3. Welder Apprenticeship Pathway
4. Standardized Level Exam Fails
5. Welder C CofQ Exam Re-writes
6. Welder C apprentices without CofQ and registration into Level 3
7. Logbook Stamps and Logbook Completion
8. Pan-Canadian Harmonization Initiative



### 1. Exams at the Final Level of Training

**Effective January 1, 2016**, all Welder B and Apprentice Level 3 students will be required to write the Interprovincial Red Seal exam at the end of their technical training. The option to write the B CofQ Exam after this date will no longer be available.

Welder B students will still receive a Welder B Certificate of Qualification if they have:

- Passed the IP Red Seal exam
- Completed 1,950 hours of work-based training and submitted their logbook for verification

The Red Seal Endorsement will be awarded to either group if they have:

- Passed the IP Red Seal exam
- Completed 4,500 hours of work-based training and submitted their logbook for verification

**Any Welder B students who have failed the CofQ exam prior to January 1, 2016 will be required to write the IP Red Seal exam when scheduling a re-write.**

ITA would appreciate the assistance of all Training Providers to convey this information to their students.

*Note: Welder A students who were not required to write the IP Red Seal exam at Level B will be required to write the IP Red Seal exam at the end of their Welder A technical training. No other exam is required for completion at this level.*

### 2. Welder Modular Pathway

The Welder Modular Pathway was reactivated as a transitional strategy until further consultation with key stakeholders could take place. Subsequent to the reactivation of the Modular Pathway work began on the Pan-Canadian Harmonization Initiative. While this work is underway ITA will continue with the Modular Pathway until a transition strategy is developed to phase out the pathway with minimal impact to apprentices.

***The Foundation program still replaces the Welder C program; this has not changed.***

The Welder B Modular program is currently available for Foundation completers (or Welder C CofQ holders) who are unable to secure a sponsor to continue technical training.

To continue in the Welder B Modular Pathway the following pre-requisites must be met:

- Welder Foundation Certificate of Completion and ***recommended 1,000 work-based training hours***

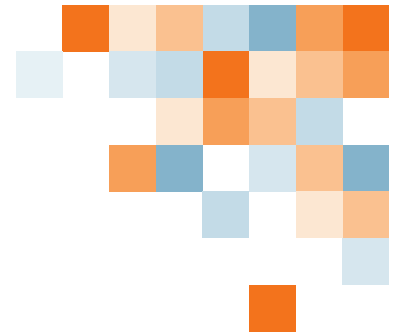
OR

- Welder C Certificate of Qualification

***NOTE: Training Providers who wish to uphold the 1,000 hour recommendation can request students provide verification in their Logbook before registering in the program.***

### 3. Welder Apprenticeship Pathway

Welders who have a sponsor and are registered in the Apprenticeship Pathway are intended to continue in that Pathway.



**4. Standardized Level Exam Fails**

Individuals who fail an ITA Standardized Level exam may be eligible to re-write the exam, this includes the Foundation Exam.

Please see <http://www.itabc.ca/exams/rewrites> for further details.

**5. Welder C CofQ Exam Re-writes**

**The Welder C program is no longer open.** However there are apprentices in the system who may still be working on their completion requirements (dependent on their registration dates). In instances where these individuals require an exam re-write they should be instructed to contact the ITA to schedule an exam sitting specifically for the Welder C CofQ exam. They should not be included in the sitting of a Foundation exam. Please see <http://www.itabc.ca/exams/rewrites> regarding re-write details.

A closing date will be determined for Welder C CofQ re-writes during the transition planning phase for the Harmonized program. An update will be released once the transition plan has been vetted with Stakeholders.

The Welder C CofQ exam is a qualification exam and as such is a must pass at 70%.

The Welder Foundation exam is not a qualification exam and will be blended at 20% of the final mark.

**6. Welder C apprentices without CofQ and registration into Level 3**

ITA allows Welder C students who have **NOT** passed their CofQ exam, but have passed their technical training to register in Level 3 if they are able to obtain a sponsor.

Rationale:

The Welder C stamp is not a requirement for progression in the Welder Apprenticeship pathway making the exam less important than sponsorship and the end goal of obtaining a Red Seal Endorsement. This was decided with a transition committee at the time the new Welder Apprenticeship model was being implemented.

While this may not be ideal it was decided that it was the best course of action with regard to the transition of apprentices.

If individuals with Welder C technical training want their C stamp they **MUST** pass the Welder C CofQ exam.

**7. Welder Logbook Stamps and Logbook Completion**

Logbook stamps are only issued upon completion of a Qualification Level. Currently these levels are:

- Welder B, Welder A, Welder (apprenticeship), Welder Endorsement – Multi-Process Alloy Welding (MPAW).

*Welder C stamps are **NOT** issued upon completion of Welder Foundation.*

Instructor Sign-off:

\*\*To indicate completion of a Level, please signoff page 18 and 19 of the logbook as follows:

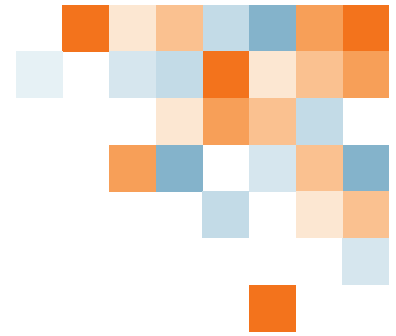
- Indicate the Level completed on page 18

**AND**

- Complete the institution information and instructor signature section on page 19

Some training modules cross more than one Level. In these cases sign-off should occur upon successful completion of the entire module.

All training providers are expected to deliver technical training according to the Learning Tasks and Outcomes in the current Program Outline posted on the ITA website at <http://www.itabc.ca/sites/default/files/program-information/welder-outline-july-2015.pdf>



This should resolve any issues regarding which skills apprentices are learning regardless of the module sign off.

*\*\*The pages for sign-off may vary based on the year the Logbook was issued*

**8. Pan-Canadian  
Harmonization  
Initiative**

The Pan-Canadian Harmonization Initiative includes transition and movement away from the Modular Pathway to a traditional Apprenticeship model. Sequencing of the program has been completed and work is underway to update the Welder Program Outline accordingly.

Implementation of the harmonized program is dependent on (but not limited to) further consultation and development of the following:

- Logbooks
- Learning Resources
- Competency Checklists
- Exam Bank Realignment
- Transition and Launch Strategies
- Technical Training Duration Analysis

ITA will be contacting key stakeholders for engagement in the above noted areas.

***Attachments***

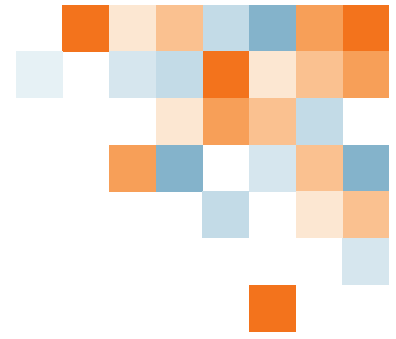
For your convenience an ***Interim Model*** has been attached that depicts the Apprenticeship and Modular pathways. This is ***not*** to be confused with the Credentialing Model in the current posted Program Standards and is for ***reference only***.

**For more  
information  
contact:**

Angela Caughy  
Program Development Officer  
email: [acaughy@itabc.ca](mailto:acaughy@itabc.ca)

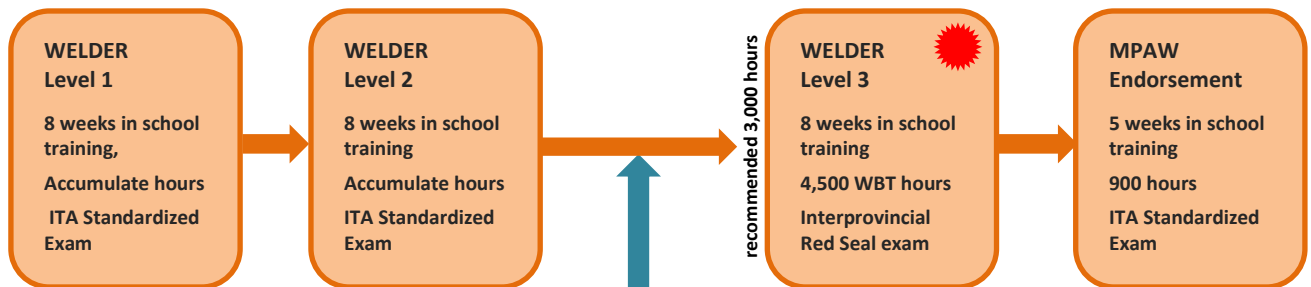
**cc:**

All Staff

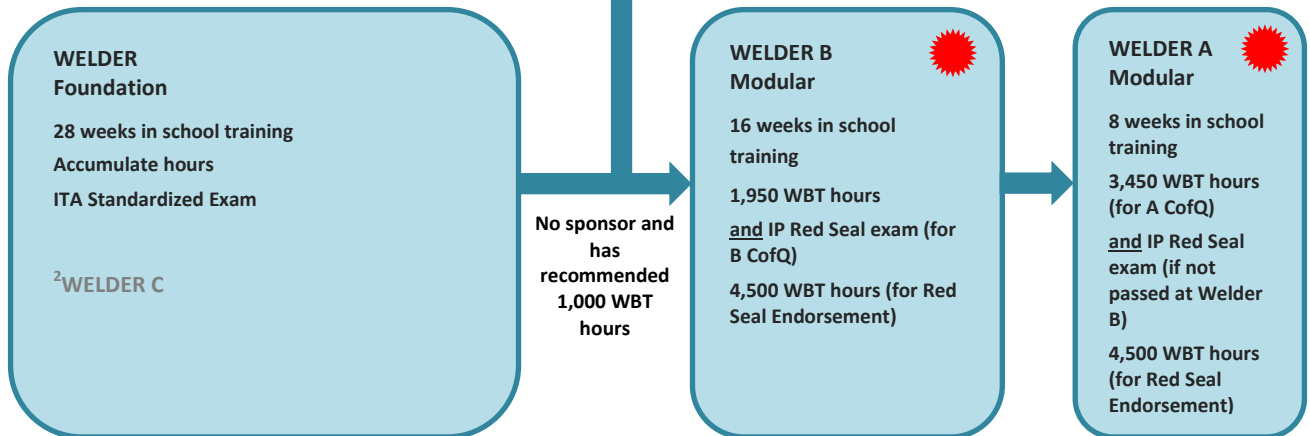


<sup>1</sup>INTERIM MODEL (FOR REFERENCE ONLY)

**APPRENTICESHIP**  
(with a sponsor)



**MODULAR**  
(without a sponsor)



<sup>1</sup>This Model is provided for reference only and is NOT a Credentialing Model.

<sup>2</sup>The Welder C program is no longer open, however individuals who have completed Technical Training but have not passed the CofQ Exam will be able to register in Welder Level 3 Technical Training if:

- They do not want a Welder C stamp
- They are able to obtain a sponsor.