

**Full Time 2025 - 2026**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** There is a real demand for skilled welders in Alberta. If you enjoy building things and working with your hands, a welding career may be for you! To work as a welder in Alberta, you must be a registered apprentice or a certified journeyman. This hands-on program will give you the skills and theory you need to succeed when you write the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training First Period theory and practical exams. Further Educational Opportunities for the Welder Apprenticeship program are Third Period. Subsequent training can lead to B-pressure certification, Canadian Welding Bureau Certification, and endorsements for specialty metals and processes.

**PROGRAM OF STUDY:**

WESM2100	Section 1 – SMAW One
WEGT2200	Section 2 – GTAW One
WEPE2300	Section 3 – Pattern Development & Estimating
WESM2400	Section 4 – SMAW Two
WELB2500	Section 5 – Lab/Shop

**TRANSFERABILITY:** Any provider approved by Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training. Students must achieve a minimum of 65% cumulative weighted average for the program's courses, with an overall final exam mark of 65% or higher with no course below 50% in order to achieve successful completion for AIT's standards. Please note: You MUST receive a 70% passing mark on your AIT Period Final Exam to pass your period of training.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** Welders have access to a wide variety of employment in Alberta in fields such as oil and gas; forestry; logging and lumber; residential; commercial; light and heavy industrial; mining; maintenance; manufacturing; power line and generation areas. Welders are needed in virtually every industry.

**PROGRAM DELIVERY:** Traditional classroom setting with electrical shop and lab practical applications and demonstrations.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:** Minimum Requirement: Registered Apprentice in the trade through Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT), 1st Period completed.

**INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS:** To apply for a trade program, applicants must be a Canadian citizen or Landed Immigrant.

**COST ESTIMATES:** **Note: All fees are subject to change.**

Tuition	\$1,104.00
Materials	\$ 95.00
Technology Fee	\$ 96.00
Textbooks (mandatory – includes GST)	\$ 253.45
Student Association Fee	\$ 108.00
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS:</b>	<b>\$1,656.45</b>

<i>Optional if previously purchased:</i>	
Calculator Casio FX260	\$ 11.27

**ADDITIONAL FEES:** Students are responsible for registering and paying the fee to challenge the first-year trades exam. The estimated cost for the Theory Exam is \$150.00. The Practical Exam: Period 2 is \$160.00

**PROGRAM LOCATION and DATES:**

**Slave Lake** March 2, 2026 – April 24, 2026

#### APPLICATION PROCESS:

- **APPLICATION:** Complete and submit the Northern Lakes College application (on the college website - follow: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/apply-now/program-applications>.) Applications may also be submitted directly through Apply Alberta [www.ApplyAlberta.ca](http://www.ApplyAlberta.ca).
- **APPRENTICESHIP EXAM:** Applicants needing admission requirements must call the **Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training** office nearest to their location to make arrangements for writing the Apprenticeship Entrance Exam. (1-800-248-4823)
- **APPLICANTS** for the apprenticeship program must be registered with **Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT)**. Application forms can be downloaded from the Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training (AIT) website, [www.tradesecrets.gov.ab.ca](http://www.tradesecrets.gov.ab.ca).
- **ACCEPTANCE:** Applicants who meet the requirements will be accepted upon payment of fees and offered a space in the next available offering of the program. In some cases, the spaces at a specific location may be full and accepted applicants will be placed on a waitlist. These applicants will be accepted in the order of "first qualified, first served" should any seats become available. Applicants will receive a letter informing them of their acceptance status.
- **FUNDING:** Applicants are encouraged to check on funding options **early (minimum of 2 months prior to program start date)**. AIT office or NLC counsellors can assist with identifying funding options and applying for sponsorship of fees and living costs. Please visit the NLC website: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/prospective-students/financial-aid-scholarships-funding/scholarships-awards> Financial Aid, Scholarships and Funding page to learn more.
- **ORIENTATION:** Before the start date of the program, accepted applicants will receive information about registration dates, times, locations and other information to assist them.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

For any assistance, questions or concerns, the following college staff are available toll-free 1-866-652-3456

**Program Administrator: Trades and Resource Technology** 1-780-843-8365  
email: [tradesaccount@northernlakescollege.ca](mailto:tradesaccount@northernlakescollege.ca)  
Questions about program content, Employment Opportunities for the program.

**Other Inquiries: Admissions Services** 1-866-652-3456  
email: [admissions@northernlakescollege.ca](mailto:admissions@northernlakescollege.ca)  
Including General inquiries about College services & programs student housing, library, facilities