



Career Information Welder

Overview

Career Title: Welder

Industry/Field: Trades

Welding is a desired skill that can be put to use in a variety of industries including vessel or structural steel assembly, pipeline construction, commercial construction, industrial construction, steel fabrication, and heavy equipment repair. Experienced welders may advance to positions such as welding inspector, welding foreman or supervisor, or plant supervisor. Master all the foundational techniques required to succeed in a welding apprenticeship when you write the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training exams. Spark your career at Northern Lakes College!

Date	February 2025 Updated
Required Education & Skills	<p>Hard Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skilled in using various welding equipment and tools, such as torches, arcs, and welding machines• Proficiency in fractions, decimals, geometry, and trigonometry for precise measurements and calculations• Ability to read and interpret blueprints and technical drawings• Ability to handle physically demanding tasks, including lifting heavy objects and working in various positions <p>Soft Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensuring precision and accuracy in welding tasks• Adjusting to different work environments and project requirements• Demonstrating reliability, responsibility, and a strong commitment to quality work• Efficiently managing time to meet project deadlines• Clear and effective communication with team members and supervisors
Job Market & Outlook	<p>Current Demand:</p> <p>The demand for welders in Canada is currently strong and is expected to remain so in the coming years. The welding industry in Canada is experiencing a labor shortage. This means there are more job openings than there are qualified welders to fill them.</p> <p>Projected Growth:</p> <p>The annual employment growth rate for welders is projected to be 0.6%, which is below the national average of 1.2%. However, certain industries like repair services and fabricated metal products are expected to see moderate growth.</p> <p>Salary Information:</p> <p>These are average national salaries, experience, and geographical location will alter your salary.</p> <p>These figures can fluctuate based on factors such as industry demand certifications, and regional economic conditions. Alberta's average salary tends to be higher, reflecting the provincial demands and economic conditions.</p> <p>Entry-Level: \$55,800.00</p> <p>Mid-Level: \$58,000.00</p> <p>Experienced: \$95,000.00</p>

Pros & Cons of this Career

Pros:

- Welders are in high demand across Canada, especially in regions with strong industrial and construction activities
- Competitive wages, with opportunities to earn more with experience and specialization
- Welding skills are essential in many industries, providing job security
- Opportunities for advancement into supervisory roles or specialized fields like underwater welding
- Potential to work in different locations, including international projects

Cons:

- Welding can be physically demanding and may require long hours in challenging conditions
- Exposure to hazards such as burns, eye damage, and inhalation of fumes, requiring strict adherence to safety protocols
- Job availability can be affected by economic downturns, particularly in industries like construction and manufacturing
- May require ongoing certification and training to stay current with industry standards
- Often involves working in noisy, hot, or confined spaces, which may not be suitable for everyone

This information has been compiled using publicly accessible provincial and federal data sources.

