

Regulation Update

New trade Regulation for Rig Technician:

On Aug. 19, 2011, the Manitoba government registered a new trade regulation for the trade of rig technician outlining the scope of the trade, term of apprenticeship, ratio requirements and designated trainers.

Scope of the Trade

Rig technician apprentices complete the following tasks to the standards of the national occupational analysis:

- “**rig technician**” means a person who operates and maintains drilling rig equipment, systems, pumps and engines
- “**level one**” means a person who maintains equipment logs and maintenance records, monitors inventories of fuels, lubricants and other service items, participates in rig-in and rig-out and contributes to the safety environment on the drilling rig
- “**level two**” means a person who fulfils the tasks, activities and functions of level one, mixes fluid chemicals and additives for use in the drilling operation, monitors and records volumes and properties of drilling mud flows during drilling, handles pipe, handles sections of the drill string assembly
- “**level three**” means a person who fulfils the tasks, activities and functions of level one and level two, assembles and disassembles the drill string assembly, monitors and maintains a record of the progress of the drilling operation and drilling crew activities.

Term of Apprenticeship

The term of apprenticeship for rig technician consists of three levels, with each level consisting of a period of at least 12 months during which the apprentice must complete 1,620 hours of technical training and practical experience.

Ratios

Over the next five years, the ratio of apprentices to journeypersons in the trade is two apprentices for every one journeyperson.

Designated Trainers

To qualify as a designated trainer, a person must have been employed in the trade for at least 4.5 years of the preceding 10 years. A person also must have experience in 70 per cent of the tasks of the trade.

For more information, please contact the Apprenticeship Branch closest to you, or visit our website.

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