

Regulation Update

Change to the trade of Steamfitter-Pipefitter:

On January 8, 2009, the Government of Manitoba registered a revised regulation for the trade of Steamfitter-Pipefitter, outlining the scope of the trade, re-opening the grand parenting provision, new minimum apprenticeship wage rates, and ratio requirements.

For Apprentices

Scope of Trade

Revisions reflect the most recent NOA (2007) in defining the tasks of the trade and the requirements of The Apprenticeship and Trades Qualifications Act and the General Regulation.

Note on Scope of Trade

The trade of Steamfitter-Pipefitter will be utilized for major capital projects (new construction and plant renovations) undertaken at Mining properties. This would include construction and installation work normally associated with such projects calling for the specialized skills of the Steamfitter and Pipefitter trades.

A general exclusion to the Steamfitter-Pipefitter trade regulation allows Industrial Mechanics (Millwrights) and plant operators to perform general maintenance pipefitting tasks in industrial locations.

Re-opening Grandparenting Provision

Grandparenting is a legislative mechanism that addresses the impact on existing workers once a trade is designated compulsory. The grandparenting process is stipulated in Section 23(1) of the General Regulation where a grandparenting applicant is required to provide evidence to the director that he or she has been employed in the trade in the immediate 10 years for 1.5 times the term of apprenticeship.

The trade of Steamfitter - Pipefitter became compulsory in 2004. The original grandparenting period was in effect for one (1) year from January 28, 2004 to January 27, 2005, the allowable standard indicated in the General Regulation.

The grandparenting period has been re-opened for a period of one (1) year effective February 21, 2009.

Wage Rates

The provincial minimum wage rate is now referenced to reflect current provincial minimum wage rates as outlined in section 12 (1) of the General Regulation. Previously, current provincial minimum wage rates were not reflected.

Unless otherwise prescribed by a payment agreement or enactment that is more favorable to the apprentice, the wage rate for an apprentice shall not be less than:

First level: 110% of the provincial minimum wage

120% of the provincial minimum wage during the second level;

130% of the provincial minimum wage during the third level;

140% of the provincial minimum wage during the fourth level;

150% of the provincial minimum wage during the fifth level.

For Employers

The provincial minimum wage rate is now referenced to reflect current provincial minimum wage rates as outlined in section 12 (1) of the General Regulation. Previously, current provincial minimum wage rates were not reflected.

Ratios

The training ratio stipulations have been changed to the on-site supervision ratio of one journeyperson to one apprentice (1:1) as outlined in section 10 (1) of the General Regulation. The previous ratio requirements were difficult to implement by requiring 1 apprentice for the first journeyperson, followed by 3 journeypersons for the next 2 apprentices, and 5 journeypersons for the next 3 apprentices, creating a complex and random ratio system.

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

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1-877-97-TRADE (1-877-978-7233)

www.manitoba.ca/tradecareers

Thompson

118-3 Station Rd.
R8N 0N3
204-677-6346
Fax 204-677-6689

The Pas

305 Fourth St. W
R9A 1M4
204-627-8290
Fax 204-627-8137

Brandon

128, 340-9th St.
R7A 6C2
204-726-6365
Fax 204-726-6912

Winnipeg

1010-401 York Ave.
R3C 0P8
204-945-3337
Fax 204-948-2346