

## EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

- ▶ Completion of Grade 12 is required.
- ▶ Trade certification is not required to work as a welder in BC. However, there are three levels of welder certification. Levels C, B and A, available in BC. Level C certification is a prerequisite for Level B certification, which is a prerequisite for Level A.

## TRAINING

The Industry Training Authority ([www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca)) is a good place to find information about becoming a welder (Level C, B and A) and training for careers in the Trades. You can register at a number of different schools to become a welder, including the College of New Caledonia, Coast Mountain College and Northern Lights College.

If you are interested in completing Grade 12 or upgrading your skills, you have a number of options. Check out adult basic education programs at:

- ▶ The College of New Caledonia.
- ▶ Coast Mountain College

If you have completed Grade 12 and are interested in exploring your career options in exploration and mining, contact:

- ▶ General education advisors or First Nations Access coordinators at Coast Mountain College
- ▶ School of Exploration & Mining advisors at Coast Mountain College
- ▶ Academic advisors at the College of New Caledonia

## CAREER ADVANCEMENT POTENTIAL

- ▶ With experience and additional training, welders can move into more senior positions. These include supervisory roles such as welding inspector, foreman or supervisor. They may also transfer their skills to related trades like boilermaking.
- ▶ Interprovincial Red Seal Certification is available for Welder Levels B and A.

*To learn more about a career as a welder (including information about work duties and working conditions, salaries and employment prospects), you can access information in the National Occupation Classification (NOC) System at [www.workbc.ca](http://www.workbc.ca). The NOC code for this occupation is 7237.*

# WELDERS

Welders operate equipment to weld metals. A welder can be either an artisan or a precision production worker. This group also includes machine operators who operate previously set up production welding, brazing and soldering equipment. The great variety of work, techniques, and work settings offered by this occupation is a very appealing aspect of this work. Welders are employed by companies that manufacture structural steel and platework, boilers, heavy machinery, aircraft, ships and other metal products by welding constactors and welding shops or are self-employed.



Image source: MiHR Council and iStock

## JOB DESCRIPTION

Welders can specialize in particular types of welding, such as custom fabrication, ship building and repair, aerospace precision welding, pressure vessel welding, pipeline construction welding, structural construction welding, or machinery and equipment repair welding. There are different levels of welders, depending on the amount of education and work experience. However, welders typically perform some or all of the following duties:

- ▶ Read and interpret blueprints or welding process specifications.
- ▶ Operate manual or semi-automatic welding equipment to fuse metal segments using many different welding processes.
- ▶ Operate manual or semi-automatic flame-cutting equipment as well as brazing and soldering equipment.
- ▶ Operate metal shaping machines such as breaks, shears, and other metal straightening and bending machines.
- ▶ Repair worn parts of metal products by welding on extra layers.

*Seabridge Gold developed its job fact sheets using information from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada's 2006 National Occupational Classification, Work BC ([www.workbc.ca](http://www.workbc.ca)) and the Mining Industry Human Resource Council (<https://mihr.ca>). To learn more about Seabridge Gold and its projects, visit [www.seabridgegold.com](http://www.seabridgegold.com).*