

# CONSTRUCTION

# NOC 7244

## POWER-LINEMAN

(T.Q.A.A., voluntary certified trade, branch 1)



### WORK DESCRIPTION

*What would I be doing?*

Power Linemen and Cable Workers operate, maintain, and repair electrical power transmission and distribution systems. Power Linemen perform some or all of the following duties:

- install, maintain, and repair electrical distribution and transmission systems including overhead and underground power lines and cables, insulators, conductors, lightning arrestors, switches, transformers and other associated equipment,
- erect and maintain steel, wood or concrete poles, towers and guy wires,
- splice, solder, and insulate conductors using splicing tools and related electrical equipment,
- inspect and test overhead and underground power line and cables and auxiliary equipment using electrical test equipment.

The work is outdoors. Physical fitness and comfort working in high places are an asset.

A five day work week of 35 to 40 hours is standard.

### PLACE OF WORK

*Who needs Linemen?*

- electrical powers generation,
- transmission and distribution companies,
- electrical contractors,

- public utility commissions (e.g., Ontario Hydro).

### CONDITIONS OF WORK

**A Power Lineman is a voluntary certified trade.** A person may or may not have a valid Certificate of Qualification or be registered apprentice to work in the trade. Under TQAA, for **voluntary** trades, the Cooperative Education student does not have to be a registered apprentice and therefore does not have to be paid during school hours. **Students who become registered apprentices may be paid** according to the Regulations.

### SALARIES/WAGES

The salary of the Power Linemen depends on the employer. In unionized places the wages and conditions of work are negotiated collectively. The rate of wages for an apprentice is a specified percentage of a journeyperson's wage according to experience and level of training.

***In the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area, Power Linemen can earn \$ 14.32 - \$ 22.58 per hour, averaging \$ 21.84 per hour.***

(Next)

## PROSPECTS of EMPLOYMENT in the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area

### RATING: *good*

The Power-Lineman trade depends heavily upon the economy and weather conditions.

## APPRENTICESHIP IN THE POWER LINEMAN TRADE

- takes about 4 years or about 8 000 h, including 720 h of post secondary in-school training; prior education and experience may shorten the time to complete all the competencies,
- must pass the Certificate of Qualification exam to receive both a Certificate of Apprenticeship and a Certificate of Qualification with journeyman status,
- Interprovincial Trade Certification (Red Seal) is available in this trade.

### In-School Education:

An OYAP student must be 16 years old and have completed Grade 10 (or equivalent). Otherwise, Grade 10 is the minimum requirement, however, completion of Grade 12 (OSSD) is advantageous. The following competencies are valuable:

English,	<i>Communication and</i>
Mathematics,	<i>ability to work</i>
Physics,	<i>unsupervised</i>
Design Technology.	

OYAP students must be full-time students in high school and those who obtain apprenticeships will complete the apprenticeship curriculum in college or an approved Training Delivery Agent.

*Specific skills learned in school are: safety, applied trade calculations, using hand and power tools, soldering, measuring and cutting, splicing, power distribution system, transmission networks, splicing equipment, electrical testing equipment, testing techniques.*

### On the Job Training

- As a high school Cooperative Education credit (towards O.S.S.D.), learning is connected to one of the school subjects.
- The Apprentices must follow a program in the **Apprenticeship Training Standards** book which is given to them in the workplace when they register. As each competency is achieved the employer signs it off.

## OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

A Certificate as a journeyman is not needed to start working as a Power Lineman but a registration in the apprenticeship is recommended. Once the apprenticeship is completed, a journeyman may:

- become a foreman or a supervisor
- work in related areas or occupations

## RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Power System Electrician,
- Telecommunications System and Cable Worker.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

*Whom should I call?*

School Guidance/Co-Op Office  
Apprenticeship Office 519 675 7788  
London: 1 800 265 1050  
Apprenticeship web: [www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca)  
EMOLTB web site: [www.localboard.on.ca](http://www.localboard.on.ca)  
Training Hotline: 1 800 387 5656  
Union: