

# CONSTRUCTION

# NOC 7261

## SHEET METAL WORKER (T.Q.A.A., compulsory certified trade )



### WORK DESCRIPTION

What would I be doing?

Sheet Metal Workers shape a flat sheet of metal, lay out and form sheet metal products such as:

- furnace and duct systems in homes,
  - oven and drying systems in an autobody plant,
  - heating and ventilating systems in high-rise office towers.
- Sheet Metal Workers:
- read engineering drawings,
  - read and interpret field sketches used in fabrication and erection of products,
  - manufacture, fabricate, assemble, handle, install, adjust, alter, repair, and recondition sheet metal products,
  - work with plastics when constructing certain type of systems.

Sheet Metal Workers work indoors, usually in industrial and residential settings that may be noisy and potentially hazardous. The work often involves lifting and carrying heavy objects.

Shift work is not unusual and a five day work week of 35 to 40 hours is standard.

### PLACE OF WORK

Who needs a Sheet Metal Worker?

- sheet metal manufacturing companies,
- air-conditioning and heating

contractors,

- machine shops,
- Some Sheet Metal Workers are self employed.

### CONDITIONS OF WORK

**A Sheet Metal Worker is a compulsory certified trade.** A person must have a valid Certificate of Qualification or be registered as an apprentice to work in this trade.

Under TQAA, for **compulsory trades**, the Cooperative Education student **must be a registered apprentice and may be paid** according to the Regulations.

### SALARIES/WAGES

The salary of the Sheet Metal Workers 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, Sheet Metal Workers can earn \$ 12.22 - \$ 23.01 per hour, averaging \$ 19.31 per hour.**

(Next)

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

### **RATING: good**

In the Sheet Metal trade the opportunities vary significantly based upon the demand for new construction and renovations.

### **APPRENTICESHIP IN THE SHEET METAL WORKER TRADE**

- takes 4 to 5 years or about 9 000 h, including 720 h of 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,
- offers an Interprovincial Trade Certification (Red Seal).

#### **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>planning skills,</i>
Physics,	<i>problem-solving</i>
	<i>skills</i>

Manufacturing Technology (Machining),  
Design Technology (Drafting).

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,  
engineering drawings/layout development,  
tool technology, bench work technology,

blue print reading, weld and cut, test adjust and balance, fabricate and install sheet metal products.

#### **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 needed to start working as a Sheet Metal Worker or a registration in the apprenticeship. Once the apprenticeship is completed, a journeyman may:

- become a foreperson or a supervisor,
- start own business,
- work in related areas or occupations.

#### **RELATED OCCUPATIONS**

- Coppersmith, Cutter, Model Maker,
- Estimator,
- Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Mechanic.

#### **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: Sheet Metal Workers Local 473  
519 439 7731