

CONSTRUCTION

NOC 7264

IRONWORKER (T.Q.A.A., voluntary certified trade)



WORK DESCRIPTION

What would I be doing?

Ironworkers fabricate, erect, hoist, install, repair and service structural ironwork, precast concrete, concrete reinforcing materials, curtain walls, ornamental iron and other metals used in construction of buildings, bridges and other structures and equipment. They perform some or all of the following duties:

- erect and install scaffolding, hoisting equipment, and rigging,
- signal crane operator to position steel units according to blueprints,
- assemble and erect prefabricated metal structures,
- position and secure steel bars and wire mesh in concrete forms to reinforce concrete structures,
- install ornamental and structural metalwork such as curtain walls, metal stairways, railings and power doors.

The work often involves lifting and carrying heavy objects. Physical fitness with strong upper body combined with agility and a comfort working at heights are assets. A five day work week of 35 to 40 hours is standard.

PLACE OF WORK

Who needs an Ironworker?

- construction ironwork contractors,
- manufacturers of ornamental ironworks.

CONDITIONS OF WORK

An Ironworker is a voluntary certified trade. A person does not have to have a valid Certificate of Qualification to work in the trade but being registered as an apprentice is recommended. 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 Ironworkers 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, unionized Ironworkers can earn \$ 18.65 - \$ 31.09 averaging \$ 24.87 per hour.

(Next)

PROSPECTS of EMPLOYMENT in the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area

RATING: *poor*

Currently, the Ironworker trade is not a good occupation to consider.

APPRENTICESHIP IN THE IRONWORKER TRADE

- takes about 3 years or about 6 000 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, as a separate exam.

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, *Communication and Mathematical, analytical skills*
Design Technology (Drafting),
Manufacturing 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, engineering drawings, blue print reading, weld and cut, rig and hoist, hoisting signals.

Erecting and taking down scaffolding, assembling and installing components, fabricating various metalworks.

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 an Ironworker but a registration in the apprenticeship is recommended. Once the apprenticeship is completed, a journeyman may:

- become a foreperson or a supervisor,
- become an inspector,
- work in related areas or occupations.

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Ornamental Ironworker,
- Metal Forming, Contractor.

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
EMOLTB web site: www.localboard.on.ca
Training Hotline: 1 800 387 5656
Union: Ironworkers Union Local 736
1 905 570 8703