

## CABINET MAKER (A.C.A., non-restricted certified trade)



### WORK DESCRIPTION

*What would I be doing?*

Cabinet Makers set up, program, and operate one or more woodworking machines to fabricate or repair wooden parts for furniture, fixtures, or other wood products. They may perform some or all of the following duties:

- read and interpret blueprints and construction drawings,
- select materials,
- set up, program, and operate one or more computerized or manual woodworking machines such as saws, routers, planers, drills, and sanders to fabricate or repair wooden parts of furniture, fixtures or other wood products,
- operate gluing machines and presses to affix wood veneer to wood surfaces,
- clean and lubricate equipment,
- repair and restyle wooden furniture.

Cabinet Makers work indoors in industrial settings that may be noisy and potentially hazardous. The work often involves lifting and carrying heavy objects. There is a lot of standing. A five day work week of 35 to 40 hours is standard.

### PLACE OF WORK

*Who needs a Cabinet Maker ?*

- manufacturing companies making furniture, kitchen and washroom cabinets.
- some are self-employed.
- School Boards, Cities and Municipalities

### CONDITIONS OF WORK

**A Cabinet Maker is a non-restricted certified trade.**

A person may or may not have a valid Certificate of Qualification or be registered as an apprentice to work in the trade. An apprenticeship is recommended. A Cooperative Education student, who is not a signed apprentice, does not have to be paid. An apprentice **may** be paid wages.

### SALARIES/WAGES

The salary depends on the employer, years of experience, and level of training. In unionized places the wages and conditions of work are negotiated collectively.

***In the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area, a Cabinet Maker can earn \$ 10.09 - \$ 17.53 per hour, averaging \$ 14.78 per hour.***

(Next)

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

### RATING: *fair*

Employers report difficulty in finding skilled workers to fill vacant positions. Job openings will result from replacement needs as experienced workers retire.

## APPRENTICESHIP IN THE CABINET MAKER TRADE

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

### In-School Education:

An OYAP student must be 16 years old and completed Grade 10 (or equivalent). Otherwise, all apprenticeship applicants must successfully complete Grade 12 (OSSD) or equivalent. The following competencies are valuable:

English, *Communication and*  
Mathematics, *Mechanical skills*  
Design Technology (Drafting),  
Construction Technology (Woodworking).

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/blueprint reading, planing, shaping, gluing, setting up computerized machines.*

### 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 woodworker but an apprenticeship is recommended. After that, a woodworker may:

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

## RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Carpenter
- Contractor
- Custom Wood Furniture Maker

## 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: