

CONSTRUCTION

NOC 7282

CEMENT FINISHER (T.Q.A.A., voluntary certified trade)

WORK DESCRIPTION

What would I be doing?

Cement Finishers perform some or all of the following duties:

- finish concrete flooring, sidewalks, and patios by hand or machine,
- expose and finish aggregate in precast and architectural concrete,
- install fixtures such as anchor bolts, steel plates, and door sills,
- finish vertical surfaces, repair or replace damaged parts of concrete, apply curing and surface treatments.

An important consideration is the need to travel to different locations where work is offered.

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

Work is heavy, indoors and outdoors, and requires good physical fitness. Machine noise and water can present hazardous conditions.

PLACE OF WORK

Who needs a Cement Finisher?

- construction companies,
- brick laying contractors,
- manufacturers of precast concrete,
- city maintenance department,

- some are self-employed.

CONDITIONS OF WORK

Cement Finisher 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 Cement Finishers 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 Cement Finishers can earn \$ 16.97 - \$ 28.29 per hour, averaging \$ 22.63 per hour.

(Next)

PROSPECTS of EMPLOYMENT in the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford Area

RATING: *excellent*

The Cement Finishers trade will be in need of skilled recruits. Many are approaching retirement and the skill base will need to be replenished. The need for Cement Finishers will continue to grow.

APPRENTICESHIP IN THE CEMENT FINISHER TRADE

- takes about 2 ½ years or 4500 h, including 720 h of post secondary in-school training, prior education and experience may shorten the length,
- must complete the terms of the Apprenticeship Contract to receive a Certificate of Apprenticeship,
- there is no Certificate of Qualification for this trade,
- Interprovincial Trade Certification (Red Seal) is not available.

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 Mathematics, Problem solving 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, blue print reading, form framing, cement mixing, curing, surface treatment.

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 Cement Finisher 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

- Cement Mason, Brick and Stone Mason
- Stone Cutter, Marble Mason

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: Operative Blasterers, Cement Masons and Restoration Steeplejacks
International Association of the United States and Canada 1 905 761 0433