

BOILERMAKERS NE AREA APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM  
WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS & WELDING CREDIT POLICY

FEE

Each apprentice is required to pay a **one-time Enrollment Fee of \$150 at orientation**. The NE Area Apprenticeship office refunds all fees upon *successful completion* of the program.

STARTING WAGE RATES

Apprentices start at a percentage of the journeyman wage, depending on their Local Lodge or Zone:

| Local Lodge / Zone                   | Starting Step | Starting Wage |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 5, 7, 13, 28, 29, 154, 175, 197, 237 | Step 1        | 65%           |
| 45, 193, 667                         | Step 2        | 70%           |

WAGE PROGRESSION

To move up to the next wage step, an apprentice must reach **both** the **OJT Work Hours** and the **number of LMS lessons/Tests** listed for that step in the chart below. Meeting only one requirement is not enough. *For example, an apprentice with 1,800 OJT hours but only 18 LMS lessons/tests stays at 70% until completing 21 lessons/tests. Then they advance to 75%.* Please note: Step 8 requires that 18 OJT Modules be submitted.

| Step   | Wage | OJT Work Hours | LMS Lessons/Tests | OJT Modules | Fee   | Period     |
|--------|------|----------------|-------------------|-------------|-------|------------|
| Step 1 | 65%  | 0              | 0                 | 0           | \$150 | 1B         |
| Step 2 | 70%  | 850            | 14                | 0           |       | 2A         |
| Step 3 | 75%  | 1,700          | 21                | 0           |       | 2B         |
| Step 4 | 80%  | 2,550          | 28                | 0           |       | 3A         |
| Step 5 | 85%  | 3,400          | 35                | 0           |       | 3B         |
| Step 6 | 90%  | 4,250          | 42                | 0           |       | 4A         |
| Step 7 | 95%  | 5,100          | 49                | 0           |       | 4B         |
| Step 8 | 100% | 6,000          | 56                | 18          |       | Journeyman |

*Step 1 starts at Period 1B because the program previously began at 60%. The 1A starting level is no longer used.*

CREDIT HOURS

Apprentices can earn up to 900 total credit hours and 20% in total wage increases. Credit hours count toward both the 6,000 total hours needed to complete the program and the OJT hour totals used to determine wage advancement.

Passing a qualifying weld test gives an apprentice a 10% raise and 350 credit hours. After a raise, the apprentice continues from their new wage step. To advance again, they must meet the requirements of the next step in the chart. *For example, an apprentice at 70% who passes Common Arc Tube moves to 80% (Step 4). To reach 85%, they must meet Step 5’s requirements: 3,400 OJT hours and 35 LMS lessons/tests.*

| Test / Rigging Category                  | Credit Hours | Percentage Increase |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Common Arc Tube                          | 350          | 10%                 |
| 3-Position Stick and 3-Position MIG/Flux | 350          | 10%                 |
| 4 Rigging Modules                        | 200          | None                |
| Total available                          | 900          | 20%                 |

**Please be aware that it is the responsibility of each Local/Zone to notify the Area Office when an apprentice passes a qualifying weld test or completes all four Rigging Modules. Credit hours and any related raise are not applied until the Area Office receives this notice.**