



July 25, 2016

Dear Stakeholder:

**Re: New Red Seal Endorsement implementation date and reduced Trade Equivalency Assessment fees for Heavy Equipment Operator Trades**

As of August 1, 2016, two important changes will take effect regarding the implementation process for the new Red Seal Endorsements for the Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) trades:

- The implementation date of the Interprovincial Red Seal examinations is now projected for fall 2016 (originally projected for summer 2016)
- Individuals applying for a Trade Equivalency Assessment (TEA) in multiple HEO trades are eligible for reduced fees until December 31, 2016:
  - Individuals applying in one HEO trade will pay the regular fee of \$235 (plus HST)
  - Individuals applying in more than one HEO trade will pay a reduced assessment fee of \$50 (plus HST) for each subsequent TEA application.

The RSE is a professional designation that recognizes the knowledge, skills and experience of the journeyperson. The RSE signifies the standard of excellence of the Red Seal Program. The introduction of the Red Seal exams does not impact the voluntary status of any of the heavy equipment operator trades; holding and maintaining a valid Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) remains voluntary for these trades.

As a reminder, effectively immediately, and **prior** to the release of the Red Seal HEO exams in Ontario, the following opportunities are available:

- Holders of a Certificate of Apprenticeship issued by the Ministry in any of the HEO trades can apply to become a member of the College's Journeypersons Class and be issued a provincial C of Q without passing a C of Q exam.
- Individuals who are approved through the College's Trade Equivalency Assessment can apply to become a member of the College's Journeypersons Class and be issued a provincial C of Q without passing a C of Q exam. To be approved, applicants must provide verifiable evidence of trade skills and experience totalling a minimum of 2,500 hours of applicable trade experience.

Once the Red Seal exams are implemented for the three HEO trades, the provincial C of Q will no longer be available. At that time, all individuals interested in obtaining a C of Q will be required to write and pass the Red Seal exam.

Although current apprentices are no longer eligible for the Apprenticeship Completion Bonus in Non-Red Seal trades, they are now eligible for the Apprenticeship Incentive Grant and the Canada Apprentice Loan. More information on eligibility and how to apply can be found on the College's website—collegeoftrades.ca.

If you have any further questions, please call our Client Services Department at 1-855-299-0028 between Monday to Friday 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. One of our client services consultants will be pleased to assist you.

Sincerely,

Royden Trainor  
Director of Policy & Programs