

June 21, 2018

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE HEAVY DUTY EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN TRADE REGULATIONS

The Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency (Agency) is committed to an industry-led apprenticeship system that builds and maintains a highly-skilled and diverse workforce contributing to the economic success of Nova Scotia. It is a system where employers actively engage as leaders in the full continuum - from labour market planning to post-journey person training, from governance to a skilled labour force.

To ensure industry is actively engaged in all aspects of the trades training system, the Apprenticeship Board appointed a Trade Advisory Committee for the Heavy Duty Equipment Technician trade. One of the responsibilities of the Committee was to review the trade regulations. As a result of the review, the Committee is seeking input on proposed amendments to the trade regulations.

Trade definition

Currently, a heavy duty equipment technician is defined as “the occupation of a heavy duty equipment technician, consisting of repairing mechanical components of and maintaining heavy construction and off-highway vehicles, whether wheeled or tracked.”

The Trade Advisory Committee is recommending that the trade encompass more than ‘mechanical components’ and include the repair and maintenance of all components of heavy construction and off-highway vehicles.

Ratio

The current ratio for the Heavy Duty Equipment Technician is 1 apprentice per journey person. Due to the difficulty finding certified journeypersons in the trade, the Trade Advisory Committee is recommending that the ratio be increased to 2 apprentices per journey person to increase apprenticeship opportunities in the trade. This follows the recent changes to ratio to the Automotive Service Technician and Truck and Transport Mechanic trades in the motive power sector.

Wage schedule

The wage schedule for each hour worked by a heavy duty equipment technician apprentice is a percentage of the wage for a certified heavy duty equipment technician in the same place of employment. This is intended to provide an incentive for apprentices to complete both technical training and the required hours for each level. As outlined in the following table, the Committee is recommending that wage increases are completed at the end of every level rather than every 6 months.

Wages for Heavy Duty Equipment Technician Apprentice		
Level of Apprenticeship	Hours in Level of Apprenticeship	Minimum Wage (% of journeyperson's wage)
1	0 –1800	55%
2	1801–3600	65%
3	3601-5400	75%
4	5401-7200	90%

The proposed changes require regulatory amendments be approved by the Apprenticeship Board. Prior to finalizing their recommendations to the Apprenticeship Board, the Trade Advisory Committee is requesting that any interested stakeholder provide feedback on the proposed changes outlined above to apprenticeshiptraining@novascotia.ca by **July 20, 2018**.