



Frequently Asked Questions – Heavy Equipment Operators Transition to Red Seal Endorsements

What will change for the three heavy equipment operator trades in spring/summer 2016?

For the first time in Ontario, individuals will be able to achieve a Red Seal Endorsement on their Certification of Qualification in any of the three heavy equipment operator trades: dozer (636C), excavator (636B) and tractor loader backhoe (636A).

Why is participating in the Red Seal program important for Ontario?

The Red Seal Endorsement is a professional designation that recognizes the knowledge, skills and experience of a journeyman. The new Red Seal Endorsements directly compliment Ontario's existing provincial programs, and signify the standard of excellence of the Red Seal Program.

When will the Red Seal exams for the heavy equipment trades be available?

The Red Seal exams are anticipated to be available in Ontario in spring/summer 2016.

Did the Trade Board for Heavy Equipment Operators support Ontario's participation in the Red Seal Endorsement for the three heavy equipment operator trades?

Yes. The Heavy Equipment Operator Trade Board made a resolution supporting Ontario's participation in October 2014.

Does Ontario's participation in the new Red Seal Program affect the trade's voluntary trade classification status?

No. The introduction of the Red Seal Endorsement does not impact the voluntary status of any of the heavy equipment operator trades; holding and maintaining a valid C of Q remains voluntary for these trades.

I hold a Certificate of Apprenticeship. Is there an opportunity to obtain a provincial Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) before the Red Seal exams are released?

Yes. Anyone with a Certificate of Apprenticeship issued by the Ministry in any of the heavy equipment operator 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. Once the Red Seal exams are implemented for the three heavy equipment operator 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.

I don't hold a Certificate of Apprenticeship. Is there an opportunity to obtain a provincial Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) before the Red Seal exams are released?

Yes. Anyone who is 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 eligible for the Trade Equivalency Assessment, 2,500 applicable trade hours are required. Once the Red Seal exams are implemented for the three heavy equipment operator 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.

If I apply for a Trade Equivalency Assessment for more than one of the three trades, do I need to submit separate applications for each?

Yes. A separate application, including supporting documentation must be submitted for each trade. More information on the College's Trade Equivalency Assessment can be found [here](#).

If I apply for a Trade Equivalency Assessment for more than one of the three trades, do I need to pay separate application fees for each?

Yes. A fee of \$200 (+HST) is charged for each Trade Equivalency Assessment package submitted to the College. This fee is based on a cost-recovery model for the evaluation services provided.

If I obtain my Certificate of Qualification in more than one heavy equipment operator trade, will I have to pay membership in the College's Journeypersons Class for all three trades?

No. You only need to pay one College membership fee in the Journeypersons Class (\$120+HST) in order to maintain all of your Certificates of Qualification.

If I currently hold a Certificate of Apprenticeship or provincial Certificate of Qualification, can I apply for my Red Seal Endorsement when the exams become available?

Yes. Once the Red Seal exams are implemented, Certificate of Apprenticeship holders and provincial Certificate of Qualification holders may contact the College about writing the applicable Red Seal exam. Those who pass the exam will receive the applicable Red Seal Endorsement.

What happens if I apply to be a member of the Journeypersons Class in any of the heavy equipment operator trades before the Red Seal exams are implemented?

If you apply to the Journeypersons Class (either as a Certificate of Apprentice holder or a successful Trade Equivalency Assessment applicant), you will receive a provincial Certificate of Qualification. Note that this Certificate of Qualification will not have a Red Seal Endorsement. A Red Seal Endorsement can only be obtained on a Certificate of Qualification after the Red Seal exams are implemented.

Will the provincial Certificate of Qualification option be available once the Red Seal exams are released?

No. Once the exams are released, the only way to receive a Certificate of Qualification is to pass the Red Seal exam and join the College's Journeypersons Class.