

PROGRAM STUDENT QC-7 GUIDELINES

Students enrolled in Institute programs, including the Structural Welding Program, the Combination Structural & Pipe Welding Program and the Pathways Welding Program will be afforded a maximum of two attempts at each AWS® Welder Certification opportunity within each program. Students will have two attempts at satisfying visual inspection criteria on each certification test. If the student fails to satisfy visual inspection criteria on their first attempt, they will be permitted to make a second attempt on a new set of test coupons only after they have satisfied the additional practice requirement. Each student will only be permitted to submit one completed test for destructive or nondestructive testing following a successful visual inspection. No additional test attempts will be permitted after the test has been submitted to the lab for testing.

The intention of the program is to complete all certification attempts during the course the certification is scheduled within. In general program students will be required to complete all certification attempts within the training hours of the applicable course, however there are some scenarios that may warrant deviating from this.

- If a program student fails a course due to ability, exceeding attendance requirements, or is dismissed due to disciplinary action, the student will be required to repeat the course. The student will be permitted to complete any remaining certification attempts during the course repeat at no additional cost.
- Program students who use their remaining time in a course to complete retest(s) to satisfy course requirements and do not get both attempts at certification during the course may schedule their certification attempt at a later date and will still be afforded two attempts at certification. (The folder will need to be returned from the test supervisor to the certification lab where it can be stored. The student must schedule the certification attempt with their current instructor and the area Process Leader in advance to ensure there is proper TS coverage).
- Students who choose to use time and not attend class during scheduled certification testing will automatically forfeit their remaining attempts at the certification unless the absence is approved by the instructor and process lead prior to the absence occurring.
- If a student is caught cheating during a certification test or is working in a manner that is unsafe to them or others around them, the attempt will be considered a failure and all remaining attempts at the certification will be forfeit. The test supervisor will make a record of the event in the note area below the record of training section on the QC-7 checklist (FM-001) and notify the instructor so disciplinary action can be taken.

NON-PROGRAM STUDENTS

Students enrolled in individual courses who choose to attempt the certification during the course may do so by contacting the front office and paying the QC-7 Certification Testing Fee (\$375). After paying the fee the student should be escorted to a front office conference room to complete their account set up in the AWS® Portal. Non-program students paying for the certification opportunity will abide by the same rules and guidelines defined under the program student section above. Non-program students who fail to complete their certification attempts within the scheduled hours of the course must pay a booth rental fee of \$140 per day to continue their testing after the course has been completed.

EXTERNAL CUSTOMERS

External Customers attempting QC-7 certification will be required to pay a daily booth rental fee of \$140 in addition to the cost of the QC-7 certification testing fee (\$375). External customers will be afforded a maximum of two attempts at their chosen AWS® Welder Certification. The customer will be permitted two attempts at satisfying visual inspection criteria for the certification test. If the customer fails to satisfy visual inspection criteria on their first attempt, they will be permitted to make a second attempt on a new set of test coupons only after they have satisfied the additional practice requirement. The customer will only be permitted to submit one completed test for destructive or nondestructive testing following a successful visual inspection. If additional tests are requested by the customer following submission to the lab, additional testing fees including booth rental fee and QC-7 certification testing fee may apply. All external customers must abide by Institute safety policies and complete a brief safety orientation prior to entering the lab. Failure to do so will result in termination of testing without refund.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Program is an OSHA requirement. PPE is equipment worn to minimize exposure to hazards that have the potential to cause injuries and illness. All students, visitors, and personnel are required to wear the appropriate personal protective equipment when in the welding lab and grinding areas. The following is required for all welding and grinding areas:

- Safety Glasses – All safety glasses shall be ANSI Z87 rated. If you wear prescription eyeglasses, they must have side shields. Eye protection is required in all lab areas at all times.
- Welding Jacket, Cape and Bib, or Flame Retardant (FR) long sleeve shirt – All Students must have a full layer of flame retardant protection covering their upper body including arms, shoulders, chest, and torso while conducting or observing welding, cutting, and grinding operations.
- Welding Gloves – Gloves are required at all times when welding, cutting, grinding and handling base metal. Gloves that are torn, wet or saturated with oil must be replaced.
- Welding Helmet – Welding helmets should be outfitted with the appropriate lens shade for the process. Consult with your instructor for proper lens shades.
- Cutting Goggles – ANSI Z87 rated cutting goggles or glasses with shade 5 lens are required for all thermal welding and cutting operations used in the labs.

Additional Safety Requirements for Right-Angle Grinder Usage:

- All handheld grinders must have guards in place and handles on them during operation.
- All operators must wear a face shield over top of their safety glasses.
- Ear Plugs are required when operating a handheld grinder.
- All grinding wheels, regardless of type, must be the appropriate size and meet or exceed the RPM rating of the grinder they are installed on.
- No cutoff wheels or grinding wheels under 3/32” thick are permitted.