

What is an... INSULATOR?

Insulators apply, remove and repair thermal and acoustical insulation using an array of insulation materials (e.g. fibre-glass, mineral wool, duct wrap, glass foam, calcium silicate, styrofoam, fire stop) on all types of mechanical equipment, such as plumbing and piping systems, HVAC systems, heat exchangers, tanks, vessels, and other mechanical systems.

INSULATORS

- Read and interpret drawings and specifications
- Select the amount and type of insulation to be installed, as well as a method of securing the insulation (e.g. spraying, pin welding, wiring, pasting, strapping, taping) according to the type and shape of surface, whether or not the equipment is cold or hot, inside or outside and what the equipment is going to be used for
- Measure and cut insulating material and coverings to the required shape and dimension
- Fit insulation around obstructions or shape insulation materials and protective coverings
- Install vapour barriers and finish insulated surfaces by applying metal cladding, canvas, plastic sheetings or cement



TRAINING TO BECOME AN INSULATOR

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING



The term of apprenticeship for an Insulator is 4 years (four 12-month periods) including a minimum of 6,600 hours of on-the-job training and two 4-week and two 5-week blocks of technical training (675 hours) each year.

An applicant, who previously completed courses of study or work experience related to the Insulator trade or holds a related journeyman certificate and has the employer's recommendation, may qualify for credit that could reduce the term of apprenticeship.

RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL PREREQUISITES

- English 10
- Science 10
- Math 10
- Preferred Grade 12 Completion

SKILLS & ABILITIES

Insulating is most rewarding for those who enjoy doing tasks precisely. It is also an occupation for people who prefer stability and security.

To be successful in their trade, Insulators need:

- manual dexterity
- the ability to lift up to 25 kilograms
- the agility required to work in cramped spaces
- the ability to work at heights and in hot and cold environments