



DIRECTIVE



Safety Directive Number: **00001**

Issued January 17, 2022 by Donald Ehler, Chief Inspector, Power Engineers
Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration

Directive To Waive Practical Experience Requirement for Power Engineer Exam Applications

Legal information

Issued pursuant to section 30 of the *Technical Safety Act*.

Summary

The Power Engineering regulation does not permit an applicant for examination toward a certificate of qualification to challenge any exams until the candidate has achieved all required practical experience that leads to a certificate of qualification. This Directive serves to waive that requirement by permitting an exam applicant to begin the exam process without having their practical time already achieved.

Issue

- 1) The Technical Safety Power Engineers Regulations require an applicant for examination to complete all required practical experience for the level of certification for which the applicant is applying to write. The regulation reads:

Applying for examination

67 *An individual may apply to take an examination leading to a Power Engineering (PE) certificate of qualification by submitting a completed application form together with all of the following to the PE chief inspector:*

- (a) *payment of the applicable PE fees;*
- (b) *proof of the applicant's identity;*
- (c) *the examination requested, including the type and class of PE certificate of qualification the examination is leading toward;*
- (d) *proof satisfactory to the PE chief inspector that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements in Section 66;*
- (e) *proof satisfactory to the PE chief inspector that the applicant has completed the practical experience required for the type and class of PE certificate of qualification the examination applied for is leading toward, including written verification of their practical experience from the chief engineer or chief plant operator of the plant where they obtained the experience.*

Directive

This Directive will allow applicants for written power engineering examination to be able to begin challenging exams at the entry level, or next higher class of Power Engineer/Plant Operator, without having to complete the practical experience required by section 67(e) of the Power Engineers regulations under the NS *Technical Safety Act*.

Power engineers working toward either the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd class levels, exam applicants may attempt all but one of the examinations required for the class of PE certificate being sought. Permission to challenge the last exam in the class series will be withheld until all required practical experience time has been accumulated by the applicant and accepted by the Power Engineer Chief Inspector. The last exam to be challenged will be the last exam in sequence for the class of certificate being sought.

Applicants for examination for the power engineer 4th class, refrigeration plant operator (1st and 2nd class), compressor plant operator, or unfired boiler plant operator, may apply to attempt all exams required for these certificates. Issuance of the certificate will be withheld until all required practical experience time has been accumulated by the applicant and accepted by the Power Engineer Chief Inspector.

All other eligibility and exam application requirements as stipulated in the Power Engineers regulations will remain in effect.

Exemption To This Directive

Students registered in an approved Power Engineering Technology program at the 4th or 3rd Class level may challenge all required exams during their training provided they have successfully completed all required academic, lab and work term outcomes as required by the approved curriculum. Apprentices participating in an apprenticeship program for 2nd or 1st Class Power Engineers administered by the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency are exempt from this Directive and may challenge all required exams during the course of the training program, regardless of whether the required practical time for that class of certificate has been achieved. Issuance of the certificate will be withheld until all required practical experience time has been accumulated by the applicant and accepted by the Power Engineer Chief Inspector.

Sources

[Technical Safety Act](#)

[NS Power Engineers Regulations](#)

Contact for directive queries

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