

January, 2005

TRAINING UPDATE

FAQ: Grandparenting

Many websites have a link to **Frequently Asked Questions** – or FAQ. This month, we will deal with Frequently asked questions about Grandparenting.

A quick review: experienced Construction Craft Workers can obtain a Certificate of Qualification by means of Grandparenting up to the summer of 2006. After that date, they will have to write and pass the trade examination to get a certificate. The requirements: 3000 hours experience within five years of the date of application, signing an Attestation of Competencies in the skills of the trade, and a \$60.00 fee.

Question: What's the process?

Complete the Application Form, read and sign the Attestation of Competencies, and get documentation of experience. Pay the fee (cheque to the Ministry of Finance, Ontario or cash at an Apprenticeship Branch office).

Question: Where do I get application forms?

Forms are available at Apprenticeship Branch offices. Local 506 members can get forms from the Union Hall or by contacting the Training Centre.

Question: How do I get proof of experience.

The Local can provide you with a summary of hours and names of employers. Otherwise, you need a letter (or letters) on company letterhead stating dates of employment and hours worked as a General Labourer in construction or as a Construction Craft Worker.

Question: Do I have to write a test?

(This is actually a very frequently asked question.) No! That's what Grandparenting is for – certifying experienced Labourers without the necessity of writing the trade examination.

The Attestation of Competencies is designed to ensure that certified CCW's have the skills of the trade. NOTE: If you wish, you CAN write the exam. There is an additional \$40.00 exam fee (making a total of \$100.00 for the exam and certificate). You still have to prove you have experience in the trade. Some individuals whose experience is from before the last five years will have to write the exam.

NEXT MONTH: Frequently Asked Questions about Apprenticeship.