

BRICKLAYER



ANNUAL SALARY: \$63,000 - \$85,000* | NOC: 7281 | Red Seal & Compulsory Certified Trade¹

**Based on a 40-hour work week at current collective agreement rates for journeypersons. Does not include benefits.*

WHAT WE DO

Bricklayers are responsible to build, maintain and repair walls, floors, pavings, and other structures that involve brick, natural stone, manufactured stone, masonry panels, glass and concrete blocks, lightweight insulated panels, insulation, membranes, and other masonry units.

People involved in this trade are specialists in stone work, restoration and ornamental work, install refractory material in high-temperature environments, and install corrosion-resistant materials to protect against corrosion in tanks and vessels. They read sketches and blueprints to calculate material requirements, cut and trim bricks and concrete blocks to specifications, and prepare and lay bricks, concrete blocks, stone, structural tiles, and similar materials to make and repair not only building walls and foundations, but also other structures such as patios and garden walls. Bricklayers might also be called upon to line or reline furnaces, kilns, boilers, and similar installations, and make and install prefabricated masonry units.²

Bricklayers will **work mainly outdoors, at heights, in occasionally poor weather conditions, and in close quarters**. They **may travel frequently** from site to site. Suitable job candidates will have **teamwork skills, safety awareness, mechanical aptitude, planning ability, agility, coordination, patience**, and the **ability to follow instructions**. An experienced bricklayer can become self-employed or work as a foreman, an inspector, or an estimator for a company.³

PREPARATORY WORK

- Research the labour market, job shadow or take a test drive in a trade
- 500 hours toward apprenticeship can be obtained from approved public school programs and experiences like Cooperative Education, Skilled Trades, the Options and Opportunities (O₂) Program, and Building Futures for Youth. 16- to 19-year-olds can become a Youth Apprentice.⁴
- Take youth health and safety courses where offered in the province of Nova Scotia
- High School Diploma or Equivalency⁵

PRE-APPRENTICESHIP & PRE-EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS⁶

- 20-week Bricklaying Masonry Certificate of Accomplishment Program from the Nova Scotia Community College worth 600 apprenticeship hours and Group A technical training credit when you register as an apprentice with the NS Apprenticeship Agency (NSAA)⁷

DIRECT ENTRY⁸

- Gain employment in a workplace with at least one journeyperson and register as an apprentice
- Must complete a *minimum* of 5400 hours of on-the-job experience and technical training in block releases that are 6 and 8 weeks in duration
- Must write your Red Seal Interprovincial Standards Examination and obtain a Certificate of Qualification in the trade from the NSAA
- Additional training is available through the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Local 1

¹ <http://nsapprenticeship.ca/trades>. You **must** be or be working towards becoming certified to work in this trade in NS.

² <http://www.red-seal.ca> and <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca>

³ <http://www.careersinconstruction.ca/en/career/bricklayer> and <http://careers.novascotia.ca/occupation/168>

⁴ <http://nsapprenticeship.ca>, <http://www.ednet.ns.ca>, <http://www.workitns.ca> and <http://www.buildingfutures.ca>

⁵ <http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/atqbrick.htm>

⁶ <http://nsapprenticeship.ca>

⁷ http://www.nsc.ca/learning_programs

⁸ <http://nsapprenticeship.ca>, <http://apprenticeship.nsc.ca/info/apprenticeship2015-16/brick.htm>, <http://bacweb.org/index.php> and <http://gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/atqbrick.htm>

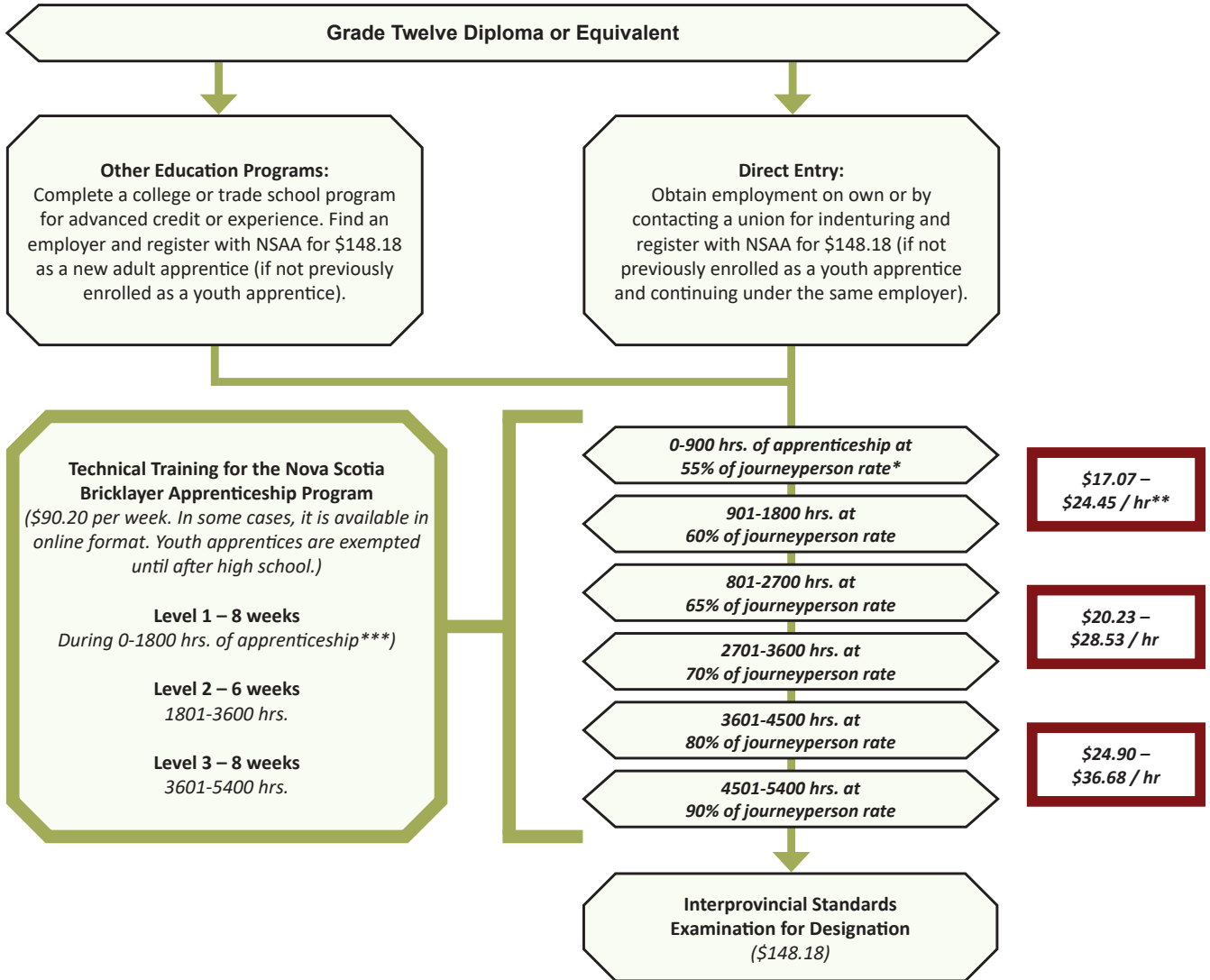
BRICKLAYERS' CAREER PATHWAY

Cooperative Education: Grades 10, 11 and 12 and at least 16 years of age to be eligible. Provides 100 apprenticeship hours per course credit.

Skilled Trades: High school courses satisfying academic requirements and providing 110 apprenticeship hours per course credit (Grades 10 and 11) and a 100-hour co-op placement.

O₂ Program: In-school learning and on-the-job training through 100-hour co-op placements. Available in select high schools. The *Building Futures for Youth Program* is offered primarily for students already enrolled in O₂ or cooperative education and provides upwards to 300 apprenticeship hours in 3 co-op credits.

Youth Apprenticeship: Ages 16-19. Paid hours that can be counted toward trade designation. Find a certified employer and register with the province (\$14.89 fee for identification). May overlap with co-op placements in high school.



* Bricklayer Trade Regulations for NS. Assumes full-time employment.

** Average hourly pay for Commercial and Industrial (non-major and major) work under collective agreement rates for mainland NS and Cape Breton Island for 2016. Apprentices may also be able to access employment insurance benefits while in class and tax incentives (refer to <http://nsapprenticeship.ca/about/financial-assistance>).

*** 6 months of work is considered equivalent to approximately 1000 credit hours. If a program is taken that is pre-approved for advanced credit, an apprentice may be credited with equivalent on-the-job hours and technical training credits.

Note: NS apprenticeship registration and technical training fees are current as of April 2016. If an individual applies to be certified on past experience, they must go through the trade qualification program (<http://nsapprenticeship.ca/sites/default/files/docs/forms/TQGP.pdf>) at a cost of \$740.77.