

ROOFER



ANNUAL SALARY: \$54,000 - \$79,000* | NOC: 7291 | Nova Scotia Designated & Red Seal Trade¹

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

WHAT WE DO

Roofers are responsible to install, repair and replace roofs, working with a variety of materials and methods. As part of a roofer's job, they will also inspect existing roofs for repair areas, weatherproof, waterproof, and damp-proof roofing surfaces, foundation surfaces, floor slabs, and bridge decks. At times, roofers may install sheet metal flashings, roof vent flashings, anchor bolt flashings, drain inserts, and clamps, and provide estimates. Roofers use materials such as asphalt, saturated felts and gravel on built-up roofing systems, and modified plastics, elastomeric and other asphalt compositions on single-ply roofing systems.

Roofers will **work outdoors, at heights, and in occasionally warm or cold weather conditions**. They may have to set up scaffolding to safely reach the heights that they work at. It may also be necessary for roofers to work with either hand or power tools to perform the work. Depending on the job, they may **work independently or in a team**. It is required that they **stay in uncomfortable bending positions for long periods of time**. They should be in **good physical shape, agile, coordinated, able to climb, lift heavy materials, and read and understand blueprints, safety aware, and have math skills**. With experience, a roofer can advance to supervisory roles, or become self-employed.²

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.³
- Take youth health and safety courses where offered in the province of Nova Scotia
- High School Diploma or Equivalency⁴

DIRECT ENTRY

- Gain employment in a workplace and optionally register as an apprentice with the NS Apprenticeship Agency (NSAA) under a certified journeyperson⁵
- Complete 5400⁶ hours as a roofer on-the-job and technical training in blocks of 6 weeks⁷ if an apprentice
- Can write your Red Seal Interprovincial Standards Examination and obtain a Certificate of Qualification in the trade from the NSAA upon completion of the above requirements⁸
- Other options for training are available through the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association, Locals 409 (Halifax) and 56 (Sydney)⁹

¹ <http://nsapprenticeship.ca/trades>. Certification/apprenticeship is not presently needed in this trade in NS, but encouraged.

² <http://www.red-seal.ca>, <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC>, <http://www.careersinconstruction.ca/en/career/roofershingler>, and <http://careers.novascotia.ca/occupation/364>

³ <http://nsapprenticeship.ca>, <http://www.ednet.ns.ca>, <http://www.workitns.ca> and <http://www.buildingfutures.ca>

⁴ <http://gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/reg/atqroof.htm>

⁵ <http://www.nsapprenticeship.ca>

⁶ <http://nsapprenticeship.ca/trades>

⁷ http://www.nsapprenticeship.ca/sites/default/files/docs/pubs/Training_Schedule.pdf

⁸ <http://www.nsapprenticeship.ca/skilled-workers/red-seal>

⁹ <http://laborweb.smwia.org/sites/Canada/SMWIACanada>

ROOFERS' 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.

Grade Twelve Diploma or Equivalent

Direct Entry:

Obtain employment on own or by contacting a union for indenturing and register with NSAA for \$148.18 (if not previously enrolled as a youth apprentice and continuing under the same employer).

Technical Training for the Nova Scotia Roofer Apprenticeship Program

(\$90.20 per week. In some cases, it is available in online format. Youth apprentices are exempted until after high school.)

Level 1 – 6 weeks

After 1st yr. (1800 hrs.***)

Level 2 – 6 weeks

After 2nd yr. (3600 hrs.)

Level 3 – 6 weeks

After 3rd yr. (5400 hrs.)

0-900 hours of employment at 50% of journeyperson rate*

901-1800 hours of employment at 55% of journeyperson rate

1801-2700 hours of employment at 60% of journeyperson rate

2701-3600 hours of employment at 70% of journeyperson rate

3601-4500 hours of employment at 80% of journeyperson rate

4501-5400 hours of employment at 90% of journeyperson rate

\$13.30 – \$20.87 / hr**

\$15.96 – \$26.56 / hr

\$21.28 – \$34.15 / hr

Interprovincial Standards Examination for Designation (\$148.18)

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

** Average hourly pay for Commercial and Industrial (major and non-major) roofing work under collective agreement rates for mainland NS and Cape Breton Island as of summer 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.

Note: NS apprenticeship registration and technical training fees are current as of April 2015. 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.