



## **AWS Certified Welder Program**

Thank you for your interest in the AWS Certified Welder Program. The following items are being provided for your review:

- Documents that govern this program and explain the requirements of the program:
  - [QC7-93, Standard for AWS Certified Welders](#)
  - [QC7-93, Supplement C Performance Qualification Sheet Metal Test](#)
  - [QC7-93, Supplement F Chemical Plant & Petroleum Refinery Piping](#)
  - [QC7-93, Supplement G AWS Performance Qualification Test](#)
- AWS Certified Welder Program Information
- [ATF Master Facility List](#)
- Application for AWS Certified Welders
- Guide to Interpreting Abbreviations on Certified Welder Card

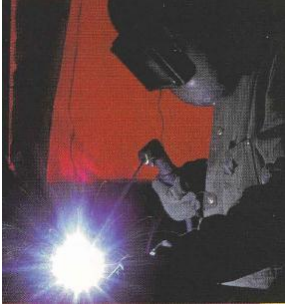
To successfully participate in this program, a welder must follow these instructions:

1. Read the QC7 Standard for AWS Certified Welders and its supplements
2. Contact the Accredited Test Facility representative nearest you to register for the test (refer to the ATF Master Facility List)
3. Take your QC7 Standard with you at the time of the test.
4. Once you have passed the test, the Accredited Test Facility will forward your application, qualifications test record and payment of \$35 to the American Welding Society.
5. After your application has been processed by the AWS Certification Department, you will receive your AWS Certified Welder wallet card, along with information on our simple renewal process to ensure that your certification doesn't expire.

Should you need further assistance, please feel free to contact the Certification Department directly at 1-800-443-9353, ext. 273.

Program Information can also be found on our website at <http://www.aws.org/cerification/CW>.

Thank you.



# The AWS Certified Welder Program

*For those who are good enough to compare  
their skills against a standard.*

*The Certified Welder program is a performance-based program with no prerequisite courses or certifications required. Final certification will provide "transferrable" credentials that you may take with you wherever you go.*

*The Certified Welder (CW) program test to procedures used in the structural steel, petroleum pipelines, sheet metal and chemical refinery welding industries. There is also a provision to test to a company-supplied or non-code welding specification.*

## Commonly asked Questions about AWS Certified Welders:

### Who is eligible to become an AWS Certified Welder?

The AWS Certified Welder program is open to anyone with a talent for welding. Since the test is strictly performance-based, there are no prerequisite courses or certifications required prior to testing. If you are able to do the weld necessary to pass the test, then you are eligible to become an AWS Certified Welder.

### Why become an AWS Certified Welder?

The AWS Certified Welder program is designed to provide "transferable" credentials to professional welders who have demonstrated a skill level wanted by industry. Volunteers, representing all sections of the welding industry, came to a consensus on the skills an AWS Certified Welder must demonstrate. This means your earned credentials reflect an industry need.

### What is meant by "transferable"?

"Transferable" means your AWS Certification is not limited to a specific job, employer or location. It's the same in Florida as it is in Oregon, Minnesota or any other state—even overseas. This is because you have performed satisfactorily to a standard that has national and international acceptance. In addition, AWS has established and administers the AWS National Registry of Welders. Even though AWS Certified Welders are issued a qualification card, the Registry is frequently used by savvy employers to verify AWS Certification, or by contractors seeking welders. If, for some reason, you do not wish to be included in the AWS National Registry, you have the option of not being listed.

### What are my certification choices?

The AWS Certified Welder program allows you to test to those procedures used in the structural steel, petroleum pipelines, sheet metal and chemical refinery welding industries. In addition, there is a provision to test to a company-supplied or non-code welding specification. To find out which Accredited Test Facility is convenient for you, and for more information on your options, visit the AWS website at <http://www.aws.org/certification/CW/> or call AWS at (800) 443-WELD, ext 273.

### How do I "demonstrate" my skill?

On the day of your scheduled appointment at an AWS Accredited Test Facility, you will deposit a sound weld that will be inspected by an AWS Certified Welding Inspector (CWI). Your ability to properly adhere to the Welding Procedure Specification, selected from available QC7 Supplements, includes fit-up, assembly, and positioning.

### **What happens if I fail the test the first time?**

If you fail the test, you may retest at any time. It is best to discuss this with your AWS Accredited Test Facility representative, who will be able to assist you in scheduling a new test date.

### **When do I get my card?**

While you'll learn if you passed the test immediately, AWS will receive your application, test results and \$35 registration fee up to two weeks after your skill demonstration. (This varies; check with your selected AWS Accredited Test Facility.) You should receive your qualification card and supply of certification maintenance forms from the AWS Certification Department in four to six weeks.

### **How long is my certification valid?**

AWS Certification remains valid as long as you submit your certification maintenance forms every six months as required by the Code of Acceptance that governed your test. Renewal processing is only \$15. As long as you can verify (have your employer sign the form) that you are still performing the same welding as you originally tested for, your certification remains in effect. But remember, you must send in your certification maintenance form.

### **What if I let my certification lapse?**

Why let your certification lapse? You've worked hard to become a top professional in a technically evolving industry, and you've proven it with AWS Certification. Every six months simply provide AWS with your updated certification maintenance form to ensure your certification status.

### **How does my employer benefit from my AWS Certified Welder status?**

Your employer, and thousands of similar companies around the country, could be saved the millions of dollars now spent on the constant retesting of welders. Getting certified also tells your employer that you're a serious professional and a valuable member of the team. Being AWS Certified should put you at the front of the line for new hires, too.

### **What is an "AWS Accredited Test Facility"?**

A testing laboratory or facility can become nationally accredited by submitting an application and meeting all the requirements under the AWS QC4 Standard. This Standard assures that this lab or facility has met the basic requirements for equipment and its calibration, procedures and knowledgeable personnel. The requirements of QC4 assure quality control of welder testing for the industry.

As a welder who's seeking certification, you want to be sure that both the facility and the person testing you have demonstrated proficiency. If the facility is AWS accredited and the tester is an AWS Certified Welding Inspector, you can be confident the certification you receive is top-notch, and your resulting skills will be among the best in the industry.

**To receive more information on the AWS Certified Welder program, call (800) 443-WELD, EXT. 273.**

## **Get AWS Certified.**





# AWS Certified Welder Application

Please print in blue or black ink

**\$35, Certification fee must accompany this form. (Prices are subject to change.)**

**Personal Information. (To be completed by the applicant)**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt./Ste. No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province / Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
 S.S. #: XXX-XX- \_\_\_\_\_ Home Tel. #: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_ Work Tel. #: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check here to have the Welder's Certification mailed to the employer's address.**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Ste. No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province / Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Upon obtaining my certification, I give AWS the right to reveal my certification status as it relates to its validity and the expiration date only. No other information related to my certification shall be revealed.  Yes  No. If Yes, please initial here \_\_\_\_\_

**Test Information (To be completed by Facility's Test Supervisor)**

Accredited Test Facility: \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate#: \_\_\_\_\_  
 WPS: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Tested: - -  
Indicate WPS as required by AWS B2.1. If Supplement G is used, indicate the WPS Number as assigned by the employer. ex: 04/12/2012

**QUALIFICATIONS RANGE: Place the appropriate abbreviation in each category box**

Supplement	Code	Process	Gas (optional)	Filler Metal	Base Metal	Position(s)	Thickness, Backing - or - Thickness, Pipe OD & Backing

**REVIEWED: Facility Test Supervisor:**

_____	_____	
Date	Signature	Printed Name
_____	_____	_____
	Date	CWI Certification Number
		Expiration Date
		_____

CWI Stamp (required)

550 N.W. LeJeune Road Miami, FL 33126 Tel: (800) 443-9353, Ext. 273 Fax (305) 443-6445

**Method of Payment**

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_  Visa  Master Card  American Express  Diners Club  Discover

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: - -

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**AWS Use Only**

Date Received:	Account #:	Amount:	
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# MAINTENANCE OF WELDER CERTIFICATION

**\$15, Maintenance fee must accompany this form. (Prices are subject to change.)**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

S.S. #: XXX-XX- \_\_\_\_\_

Certification #: \_\_\_\_\_

Enter the date you most recently used the processes you would like to maintain.

**Important:** Failure to include dates below will result in payment being forfeited.

<b>SMAW</b>	_____	-	_____	<b>GMAW</b>	_____	-	_____	<b>FCAW</b>	_____	-	_____
<b>GTAW</b>	_____	-	_____	<b>Other</b>	_____	-	_____		_____	-	_____

Your certification is extended from the dates you have indicated above. Ex: 04/12/2012

**Verification:** / Employer / Test Supervisor / Customer: Certify that the above named welder used the welding process(es) on the dates indicated.

**Important:** This form is NOT to be signed by the applicant. (Please Circle One)

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) - - \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: - - \_\_\_\_\_

Copy this form as needed.

If your mailing address has changed in the last six months, please list new address below:

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt./Ste. No.: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Province/Country: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***YOUR CERTIFICATION IS IMPORTANT TO YOU AND TO US!***

Use these forms before your expiration date to properly maintain your certification. Certifications in accordance with Supplement C or D9.1 for the Sheet Metal Welding Code require maintenance every 12 months. Certifications in accordance with D1.1 and all other codes require maintenance every 6 months. Check the requirements of the standard that governs your certification to assure that maintenance is received by AWS at the proper intervals. All checks and money orders must be made payable to AWS and mailed to: AWS, 550 NW LeJeune Rd., Miami, FL 33126.

**WE RECOMMEND SENDING YOUR FORM VIA US MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED.**

### **Method of Payment**

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_  Visa  Master Card  American Express  Diners Club  Discover

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### **AWS Use Only**

Date Received:	Account #:	Amount:
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# Certified Welder Application

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION

There is a \$35 fee for each certification granted. For credit card information, fill out the box at the bottom of the application. Please fill out a separate application for each certification that the welder tested.

Personal Information (supplied by welder): The welder is responsible for maintaining the certification and AWS must have a personal address in order to stay in contact with him/her. All certification materials will be sent to the welder's home address, unless specified to be sent to employer's address. **Remember to contact AWS if you change your address!** If the box "Send Results to Employer", is checked, the employer's address must be supplied. AWS will send a confirmation letter to the company address indicated below the box.

Test Information (supplied by the Facility Test Supervisor): When using Supplement G, AWS must have a copy of the actual WPS on file. If you have previously submitted the WPS or are utilizing an AWS B2 SWPS, the AWS Certification Department has a record of this information. Any further tests using that same WPS can be referenced on the application. If this is the first time a WPS is being used, please submit a copy of that WPS and any supporting paperwork along with the application.

Under Qualifications, list the abbreviations that should appear on the welder certification card using the codes below. Note that some categories, such as Gas, may not apply in all situations (SMAW for example). Also, consider the "typical" essential variables of Welder Qualifications, such as position(s), up or down progression, thickness, outside diameter (OD, if pipe), and use or non-use of backing.

**Authorization:** If the welder wants the certification information to be released, for example, to people wishing to hire AWS Certified Welders, have the welder sign initials, where indicated on the application.

**Review:** After completing the application, the Facility Test Supervisor must sign the document, indicating his CWI certificate number and its expiration date. Signature by the ATF Supervisor attests to the completeness and accuracy of the record supplied.

### GUIDE TO INTERPRETING ABBREVIATIONS ON AWS CERTIFIED WELDER CARD

#### EXAMPLE

Supplement	Code	Process	Gas (optional)	Filler Metal	Base Metal	Position(s)	Thickness, Backing - or - Thickness, Pipe OD & Backing
G	D1.1	GTAW	Ar 100%	ER70S-2	A106B	4G	L: 1/8-3/4": 4" OD: WB
		FCAW	CO <sub>2</sub>	E71T-1		4G	L: 1/8-3/4": 4"OD: WB

#### AWS SUPPLEMENTS

C	Sheet Metal Welding (AWS D9.1)
F	Chemical Plant and Petroleum Piping (ASME B31.3 and Sec. IX)
G	Generic Supplement (Company-furnished WPS and acceptance criteria)
B2.1	SWPS

<b>CODES:</b>	<i>(For Supplement G only, reference appropriate acceptance criteria.)</i>
B2.1	AWS B2.1, <i>Standard for Welding Procedure and Performance Qualification</i>
D1.1	AWS D1.1, <i>Structural Welding Code - Steel</i>
D1.2	AWS D1.2, <i>Structural Welding Code - Aluminum</i>
D9.1	AWS D9.1, <i>Sheet Metal Welding Code</i>
ASME IX	ASME Section IX, <i>Qualification Standard for Welding and Brazing Procedures, Welders, Brazers, and Welding and Brazing Operators</i>
D15.1	AWS D15.1, <i>Railroad Welding Specification - Cars and Locomotives</i>
API	API 1104, <i>Welding of Pipelines and Related Facilities</i>
CUST	<i>Other customer may be used as indicated on the employer supplied WPS</i>

*\*Other standards/codes may be used as indicated on the employer supplied – WPS*

#### PROCESSES:

SMAW	Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW)
GMAW	Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW)
GMAW-S	Gas Metal Arc Welding - Short Circuit
FCAW	Flux Cored Arc Welding (FCAW)
GTAW	Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW)
SAW	Submerged Arc Welding (SAW)
BZ	Brazing

#### GAS:

AR	Argon
HE	Helium
Ar/CO <sub>2</sub>	Argon/Carbon Dioxide
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon Dioxide
Other - specify	

#### FILLER METAL (AWS CLASSIFICATION NUMBER)

ER309-L  
E7018-A1L  
ER70S-2

#### BASE METAL

AXXX ASTM Designations (i.e., A36)  
M Material Numbers from B2  
SAXXX (SA106, SA105, SA304L, etc.)  
PX (P1, P8, P44, etc.)

#### POSITION

1G Groove Weld, Flat  
2G Groove Weld, Horizontal  
3G Groove Weld, Vertical  
4G Groove Weld, Overhead  
5G Groove Weld, (Pipe) Vertical  
6G Groove Weld, (Pipe) 45° Vertical  
6GR Groove Weld, (Pipe) 45 with Restriction Ring  
1F Fillet Weld, Flat  
2F Fillet Weld, Horizontal  
3F Fillet Weld, Vertical  
4F Fillet Weld, Overhead  
V Vertical Progression Up  
D Vertical Progression Down  
A All

#### THICKNESS

U Unlimited (ex. 1/8" to Unlimited)  
L Limited (ex. 1/8-3/4")  
xx-xx Range in sheet gauges (ex. 11 - 18)  
x/x Thickness in fractions of an inch (ex. 3/8")  
SCH Schedule listing for pipe thickness (ex. Sch 40)  
WB With backing  
WOB Without backing  
OD Outside Diameter (pipe)