

Value of Red Seal Trade Designation

When a trade is designated as a Red Seal Trade, candidates who meet all eligibility requirements in their province/territory may apply to write the interprovincial Red Seal examination. If successful, they receive that province/territory's certificate of qualification with a Red Seal endorsement affixed to it.

Specific benefits include:

- The Red Seal Program is Canada's standard of excellence for skilled trades. Obtaining a Red Seal endorsement acknowledges a journey person's competence and quality workmanship, and facilitates recognition of his/her certification across Canada. The Red Seal provides employers and consumers with quality assurance and confidence.
- The Red Seal is evidence a journey person is qualified to do his/her job. The Red Seal provides confidence to both employers and consumers that a tradesperson is skilled and knowledgeable.
- It is widely recognized and respected by the trades industry across Canada and internationally.
- A Red Seal endorsement is an employment advantage that opens the door to job opportunities, higher wages, and career advancement.

Responsibility for Designation of a Trade as a Red Seal Trade

The Interprovincial Standards Red Seal Program and the designation of trades as Red Seal are the responsibility of the Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship (CCDA). The Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship is an organization comprised of:

- One official from each province and territory who is responsible for managing and directing apprenticeship programs within their jurisdiction; and
- Two federal government representatives from the Department of Employment and Social Development Canada.

The Council's member jurisdictions have agreed to work together to facilitate the development of a certified, competent and mobile skilled trades workforce in Canada. CCDA members are accountable to the jurisdiction they represent.

Organizing a Request for Red Seal Designation

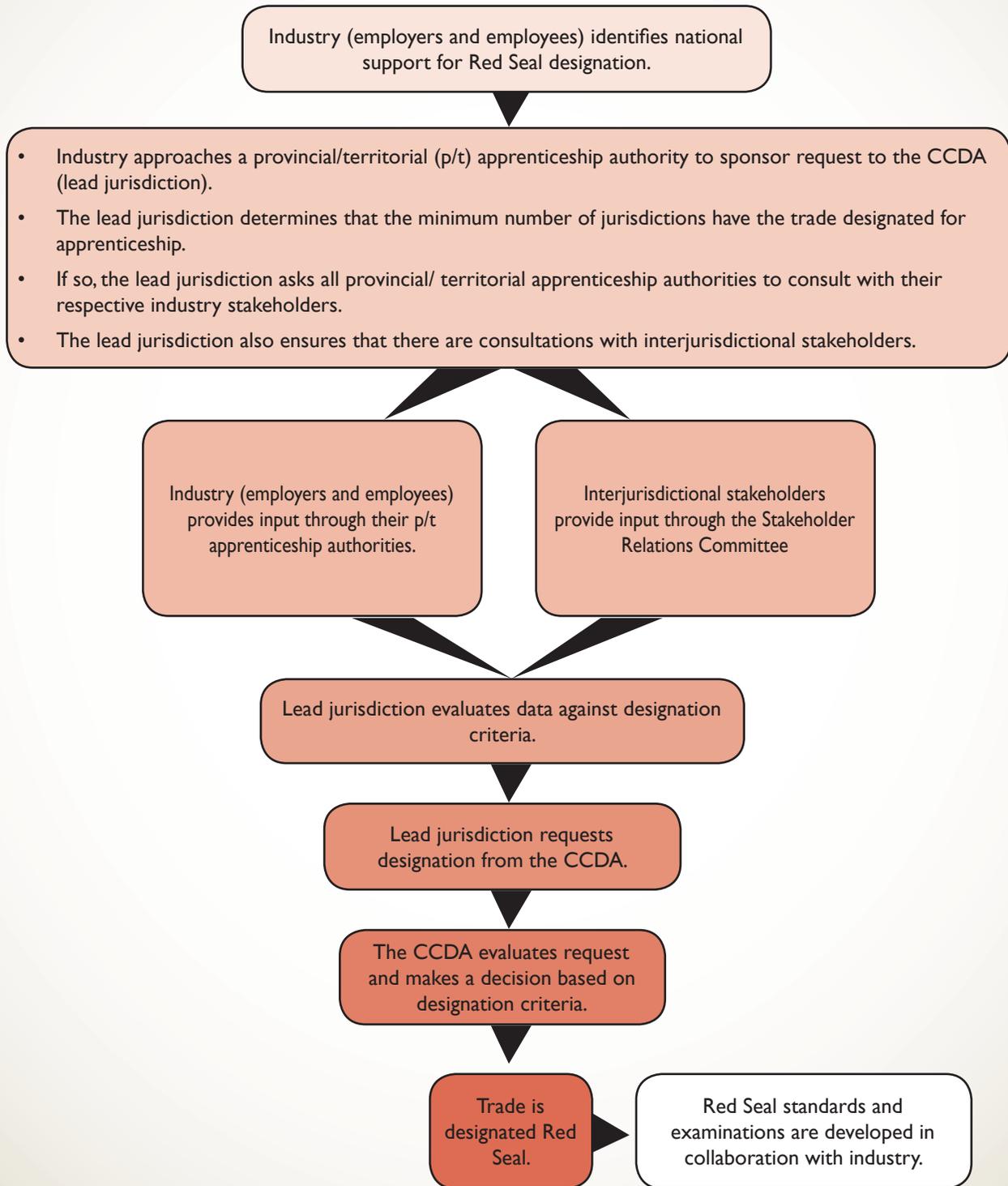
The following represent the criteria and supporting information required by the apprenticeship authority to initiate and assess the designation of a trade as Red Seal:

1. The trade is designated for apprenticeship and certification by apprenticeship authorities in at least five jurisdictions;
2. The request for designation is supported by industry;
3. The request for designation should include evidence of the following:
 - a. National demand within industry for a Red Seal endorsement;
 - b. The degree of commonality of the trade's scope (tasks performed) across provinces and territories. *Note: The requesting jurisdiction must define a proposed scope of practice of the trade and there must be general agreement among supporting jurisdictions for this scope of practice.*
 - c. The extent to which industry (employers and employees) from participating jurisdictions are prepared to support, maintain and promote the Red Seal endorsement, if designated.
 - d. Sufficient activity in the trade across jurisdictions where the trade is designated for apprenticeship. Evidence of this activity would support the development and maintenance of Red Seal standards and examinations. *Note: the CCDA tracks the number of apprentices registered and writings of Red Seal examinations for each trade. Evidence of current and anticipated activity should include:*
 - i. Number of apprentices currently registered (at least 500)
 - ii. Number of current examination challengers (at least 300)
 - iii. Number of anticipated challengers to Red Seal endorsement



Assistance in organizing a request for designation can be provided by the CCDA Stakeholder Relations Committee.

FLOW CHART FOR RED SEAL DESIGNATION



Questions and Answers

Q: What is the role of the CCDA in the designation of Red Seal Trades?

A: The CCDA assesses requests for designation made by its members. Upon receipt of a request, it will conduct a survey of industry across all jurisdictions to inform the request and to provide a basis for an informed decision. All CCDA decisions are consensus-based.

Q: How can industry contact the CCDA to find out more about Red Seal designation?

A: The CCDA can provide information and support to groups requesting Red Seal designation. The Stakeholder Relations Committee of the CCDA is responsible for liaising and communicating with industry. Organizations may contact the Stakeholder Relations Committee through the CCDA Secretariat at CCDAsecretariat@gov.ab.ca.

Q: What is a lead jurisdiction?

A: The jurisdiction is the authority that manages the industry request for designation and brings it forward to the CCDA. It is the responsibility of the lead jurisdiction to review the request against the designation criteria and communicate the request to all jurisdictions so that they can consult with their respective trade advisory committees and trade representatives. The lead jurisdiction also works with the Stakeholder Relations Committee to consult with other national stakeholders such as national associations and regulators. The lead jurisdiction compiles all the information collected for the request for designation to the CCDA.

Q: If a trade with a different name exists, but with common tasks in a number of jurisdictions, can this trade be designated Red Seal?

A: Yes, there are some Red Seal trades where the name varies across jurisdictions.

Q: Do trades that are designated provincially or territorially have to be unionized?

A: No. Provincial/territorial designation and Red Seal designation are available to trades and occupations regardless of whether their workforces are unionized, non-unionized or both.

Red Seal Designation Check List

Activity	Completed
Identification of a CCDA member to sponsor the designation request (lead jurisdiction)	
Working relationship established with each provincial/ territorial apprenticeship authority where the trade is designated for apprenticeship or in the process of being designated.	
Confirmation that the trade is designated for apprenticeship in a minimum of five provinces/territories.	
Common scope of tasks in provinces/ territories has been confirmed.	
Process for verifying industry (employer and employee) support has been implemented and relevant information collected.	
Evidence of demand (annual): i. Number of apprentices registered (at least 500 across all jurisdictions where the trade is designated for apprenticeship) ii. Number of current examination challengers (at least 300 across all jurisdictions where the trade is designated for apprenticeship) iii. Number of anticipated Red Seal examination challengers	

