

## **Assessment Tip Sheet Welding, Brazing, and Soldering**

**Career Cluster:** Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

**Programs:** 48.0508 Welding, Brazing, and Soldering

**Assessment Name:** NOCTI - Welding – Job Ready Assessment

**Assessment Name:** American Welding Society (AWS) SENSE certification (please see bottom of tip sheet for more information on the SENSE certification.)

**Assessment Description:** The NOCTI Welding Assessment consists of multiple-choice questions that measure a students' factual theoretical knowledge in welding as well as a practical application exam.

### **Test Vendor Website**

Visit the Michigan page of the [NOCTI website](http://www.nocti.org/StateCustomized-MI.cfm) at <http://www.nocti.org/StateCustomized-MI.cfm>.

**Content Areas Covered by the Assessment:** The Welding assessment covers competencies and skills in safety, welding symbols and blueprint reading, oxyfuel cutting, arc cutting process, physical characteristics and mechanical properties of metals, weld fit-up and quality, shielded metal arc welding, gas metal arc welding and flux cored arc welding, and gas tungsten arc welding.

**Assessment Blueprint:** A complete assessment blueprint can be viewed at the Michigan page of the [NOCTI website](http://www.nocti.org/StateCustomized-MI.cfm) at <http://www.nocti.org/StateCustomized-MI.cfm>. The blueprint provides an overview of the specific competencies and skills measured on the assessment. Sample questions, the number of questions, and administration information are included to assist with planning and preparation.

### **How many Questions are on the assessment and is the assessment timed?**

The Welding assessment consists of 172 multiple choice questions and is a timed test with a total administration time of three hours.

### **Who must take the assessment?**

Students enrolled in the state-approved CTE programs listed above whom either:

- 1) Completed the program in the current school year (have completed all 12 segments) and at least a 2.0 in each course section.

-OR-

- 2) Are program concentrators (completed more than half the program – 7 or more segments) and who will leave school at the end of the current school year.

### **What is the procedure to order assessments?**

Orders are placed using NOCTI's online order process. Below are account and order details to assist with implementation.

- If your school is not a current NOCTI customer, visit the NOCTI website [Getting Started Section](http://nocti.org/GettingStarted.cfm) at <http://nocti.org/GettingStarted.cfm> for account setup information.
- Orders are placed by the school's designated NOCTI Site Coordinator using the online order form at the Client Services Center. The Client Services Center is a secure, password protected site for managing a NOCTI testing program.
  - Select test code **4272** – a new test for this year.
  - A purchase order or credit card is required at the time orders are placed.
  - Schools will be invoiced for all assessments ordered. The individual school is responsible for payment to NOCTI.
  - Orders for online testing are processed in two full business days. Coordinators receive email confirmation when order processing is completed.
- Plan carefully when determining the number of assessments to order. NOCTI online assessments are not eligible for return. Orders are processed in two business days to assist in ensuring an accurate count of anticipated test takers prior to placing orders.

### **How much does the assessment cost?**

\$22.00 per assessment (online administration)

### **How is the assessment administered?**

Assessments are administered using QuadNet™, NOCTI's online testing system. Administration must take place in a proctored environment following NOCTI's security policy and processes. Both the written and practical Welding assessments can be administered in multiple sessions to assist with scheduling and participant fatigue. Session options are designated at the time orders are placed and include:

- One 2-hour session
- Two 1-hour sessions
- Three 40-minute sessions

### **Are practice tests available?**

Study guides are available that provide a checklist for each major topic on the written test. Online sample questions provide students the opportunity to experience the online testing system features and become familiar with NOCTI's test question format.

Information about [NOCTI Study Guides](#) are available at

<http://www.nocti.org/StudyGuide.cfm?m=3>. Orders are placed by the NOCTI Site Coordinator using the online order form at the Client Services Center. A purchase order or credit is required for ordering and orders are shipped within two weeks of being received at NOCTI.

### **Pretesting**

NOCTI uses a single form for both the pre and post-test. **Pretesting is not allowed.**

### **What is the testing window?**

The assessment dates are district-determined. Orders for online assessments are processed in two business days. **All testing must be completed by May 18, 2018.**

If an extension is needed, contact Valerie Felder at 517-335-1066

[FelderV@michigan.gov](mailto:FelderV@michigan.gov).

### **Is training available for Site Coordinators, Proctors?**

NOCTI offers free [Site Coordinator Training Webinars](#) throughout the school year. To view dates and register for a webinar, visit <http://www.nocti.org/Webinar.cfm>. Resources such as the Proctor Guide for Online Testing and a Proctor Training PowerPoint are available to Site Coordinators at the Client Services Center. NOCTI encourages Site Coordinators to provide these materials for test proctor review prior to the scheduled test date.

### **How do I access technical support?**

NOCTI provides live technical support for assistance with the Client Services Center, online testing, or computer set-up.

Call: 1-800-278-8506

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST

### **Information about Exam Accommodations:**

At times, it may be necessary to allow accommodations when administering. For students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) with [assessment accommodations](#) visit <http://nocti.org/TTS.cfm?m=3>. Accommodations such as Text-to-Speech (TTS), Readers, Visual Assistance, Assessment Booklets, Time Extensions, and Multiple Sessions are available.

### **Non-English Languages Available:**

The assessment is not available in other languages.

### **How are reports accessed?**

Score reports are available at the Client Services Center two business days after the online user codes are released for scoring. Site Coordinators receive email notification when score reports are available. The standard score report packages include the following reports, which can be exported in pdf or Excel formats and shared with teachers.

- Individual Score Report
- Group Score Report
- Analysis of Scores
- Competency Report

### **What is a passing score on the assessment?**

The cut score is **TBD**.

### **Who should teachers contact with questions about instruction?**

Teachers should contact their local CTE director or CEPD CTE administrator with questions about instruction. The [OCTE Skill Assessments website](#) also has information about instruction: [http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530\\_2629\\_53970---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_2629_53970---,00.html) or you may also direct questions to the state program consultant for their program area. The state program consultant for Transportation, Distribution & Logistics is Dana Hughes. She can be reached at 517-335-0359.

**Who should assessment coordinators contact with questions about NOCTI?**

Ordering: [orders@nocti.org](mailto:orders@nocti.org) or 1-800-334-6283

General, administration, and scoring questions: [nocti@nocti.org](mailto:nocti@nocti.org) or 1-800-334-6283

Questions specific to Michigan testing programs: Mandy McCall, Project Coordinator, 1-800-334-6283 or [mandy.mccall@nocti.org](mailto:mandy.mccall@nocti.org).

**Who should assessment coordinators contact with State of Michigan Technical Skills Assessment policy questions?**

Valerie Felder at 517-335-1066 [FelderV@michigan.gov](mailto:FelderV@michigan.gov)

**ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATIONS – AWS SENSE CERTIFICATION**

The SENSE certification is available to those programs who are SENSE certified at no cost. If a district wishes to pay for student certificate the cost is currently \$15.00, but is not necessary for us to capture data from SENSE vendor. SENSE certified data can be provided in an electronic form and delivered via OCTE Moodle.

**What are the required tests?**

Students who are eligible to receive their SENSE certification will need to complete the **minimum** SENSE requirements:

**Required Modules and Tests (Cut Scores in Parenthesis)**

Health and Safety (100%)

Symbols and Plan Reading (75%)

Thermal Cutting (75%)

Visual Inspection and NDT (75%)

**Process Modules and Tests (choose one)**

Shielded Metal Arc Welding

Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

Gas Metal Arc Welding

Flux Core Arc Welding

All Process Modules and Tests have a demonstration test (pass/fail) and a multiple choice written assessment (75% cut score). Students who complete these requirements at the specified level will be considered SENSE graduates and their data will be forwarded.

**Important Note:** Students who DO NOT complete the above minimum requirements WILL NOT be in the SENSE data records shared with OCTE. Those students should take the required NOCTI Technical Skills Assessment as detailed in the pages above.

Please contact the [American Welding Society](http://www.aws.org/education/Sense) for additional information on the SENSE certification. [www.aws.org/education/Sense](http://www.aws.org/education/Sense)