

# WABO Welding Certification General Test Information



Wenatchee Valley College  
Continuing Education

1300 Fifth Street  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
509.682.6900  
**[ceinfo@wvc.edu](mailto:ceinfo@wvc.edu)**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

---

### Test dates

Please refer to the test schedule on our website ([wvc.edu/ced](http://wvc.edu/ced)).

### Test location

The welding lab is located on the north side of the Wenatchee Valley College campus. When traveling west on 9<sup>th</sup> Street, it is just past the “S” curve, on the left.

You can view and download a campus map, here: <https://www.wvc.edu/about/wenatchee-campus/wenatchee-campus-map.html>

The welding lab is in the Industrial Technology building, labeled “K” on the campus map.

### Test times

Testing time is from 9:00am until approximately 4:00pm. Applicants should arrive shortly before 9:00am to begin the test. Late arrivals after 10:00am may have to reschedule for a later date. A 30-minute break is usually taken from 11:30-noon.

### Testing Standard

Applicants will be tested according to the WABO Standard No. 27-13. This can be found at [www.wabo.org](http://www.wabo.org). We have obtained permission to use information from this Standard—primarily from pages 8 and 10—in this information brochure.

### Valid photo ID is required at time of testing

Applicant must sign a Test Record Form

**\*\*\*Please note that each certification is a separate test and requires payment of the \$500 test fee.\*\*\***

**\*An additional fee of \$60.00 must be paid to WABO by the applicant.  
This must be given to WVC on test day to be sent with the application to WABO.  
Check payments only.**

## TEST PROCEDURES AND INFORMATION

---

1. Applicants must bring their own:
  - leather gloves
  - jacket
  - helmet
  - cap
  - safety glasses.
  - ear plugs will be provided

2. The testing process can take up to seven hours. Please plan on this much time for test plate fabrication and welding.
3. Applicants must fabricate their own test plates, per Examiner directions.
4. Base metal is provided for machine setting and practice
5. Applicants will receive test results within seven days from test date

**WABO Information per Standard 27-13** (section 27-13.5, page 10  
[wabo.org/welder-forms](http://wabo.org/welder-forms))

- 1.1 Work Performance: Each welder and welding operator shall perform one or more test welds on prepared test coupons in accordance with the following:
  - 1.1.1 Welding machines shall be set at zero or minimum setting prior to the welder or the Welder operator adjusting the machine.
  - 1.1.2 Prior to welding, each test weldment shall be identified by placing a welder or Welding operator identification mark and laboratory test number on the test weldment for each process and position.
  - 1.1.3 Each specimen removed from the test weldment shall be stamped with laboratory test number and specimen number.
  - 1.1.4 Test weldments may not be removed from position during the test.
  - 1.1.5 Cleaning and removal of slag, undercut and excess bead convexity between passes is acceptable if made in position with the approval of the welder examiner.
  - 1.1.6 Grinding of root and cover passes not permitted.
- 4.0 Groove welds shall be preferably be made with slight or minimum reinforcement. The reinforcement shall not exceed 1/8 inch in height and shall have gradual transition to the plane of the base metal surface. This refers to the cover pass. No part of the cover pass shall be below the base metal surface.

**WABO Welder Certification Classifications, Processes, Methods.**

Please refer to page 8 of the WABO Standard No. 27-13 found on the **WABO** website:  
[wabo.org/welder-forms](http://wabo.org/welder-forms)

Applicants should review the WABO Standard 27-13 concerning the specific certification they

are seeking. This is a guide for practicing **in preparation** for the test; machine settings, travel direction, electrode diameter, base metal thickness, etc.

## Things to be aware of in choosing a specific certification

1. An essential variable change requires an additional certification. This is true for most things. For example:
  - A. An increase in wire size: A welder certified in Flux Core (with shielding gas) with .045 diameter electrode wire – is not certified with 1/16” diameter wire. but if the person is certified with the larger wire, the certification covers the smaller diameter wire.
  - B. An increase in base metal thickness: The unlimited thickness certification covers the thinner base metal but not the other way around.
  - C. A change in weld position: One certified in flat and horizontal position cannot do vertical and overhead. But one certified in vertical and overhead is certified in all positions.

*Consider certifying in FCAW (with gas shielding) to weld in all positions with unlimited base metal thickness.*

2. An increase in the “F” Group SMAW electrodes. 7018 Electrodes are in the F-4 Group. Stick electrodes are rated 1 through 4 in difficulty. The F-4 group is the most difficult to use. So again, certification in the F-4 covers the lesser difficult groups.
3. The variable list goes on - choose the certification that best fits your needs!

**\*\*\*Please note that each certification is a separate test and requires payment of the \$500 per test fee.\*\*\***

## Questions?

For questions about registration, payment, and scheduling:

Continuing Education Department, Wenatchee Valley College  
509.682.6900  
ceinfo@wvc.edu

For specific test or WABO questions:

Bob Acklin, WABO Weld Test Examiner, Wenatchee Valley College  
509.679.6388