



INFORMATION REGARDING WORKING IN CANADA

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THERE HAS BEEN A MAJOR CHANGE IN THE ALBERTA APPLICATION PROCESS

IBEW LOCAL 424 SUBMITTED ELEVEN APPLICATIONS, WHICH THEY BELIEVED TO BE PERFECT, TO THE ALBERTA GOVERNMENT. ONLY THREE OF THE ELEVEN WERE ACCEPTED.

ALL 70 APPLICATIONS THAT WERE MAILED TO ALBERTA WILL BE MAILED BACK TO LOCAL 46. OVER 90 % OF THE WORK HISTORIES IN THE APPLICATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE REWORKED.

ON FEBRUARY 26 WE RECEIVED THE ABOVE 70 APPLICATIONS THAT WERE IN THE FIRST TWO MAILINGS. MOST OF THEM WILL NEED INFORMATION ADDED. COME IN OR CALL THE HALL TO FIND OUT IF YOUR'S IS ONE OF THEM.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE IN THIS MATTER.

A graduation certificate from the JATC will no longer prove 8000 hours. Unfortunately, this means another trip to Local 46 to submit new paperwork. Information from each individual contractor that you have worked for will have to be filled out until the required 8775 hours in the electrical trade has been reached. The hours cannot be estimated. They must be the exact hours as shown in the Trust statement. We are also asking each member to highlight the contractors on their Trust statement to make it easier for the Alberta government to read the paperwork.

If you are an IBEW Local 46 Wireman and have any questions about job openings in Alberta, please call IBEW LOCAL 46 Dispatch.

HOW TO FILL OUT THE ALBERTA APPLICATION

Section 1. Trade-Electrician

Section 2. Personal Information - Make sure your name matches your passport. Include an Email address; it is how you will receive a job offer from Alberta.

Section 3. Education and Training - The Certificate that they are looking for is your state electrical license.

Section 4. Work Experience - We will fill out the "Name of Contact Person" and their phone number and/or email address. You need to prove both 72 months and 8775 hours of (non-foreman) electrical work.

Information from each individual contractor that you have worked for will have to be filled out until required 8775 hours in the electrical trade has been reached. The hours cannot be estimated. They must be the exact hours as shown in the trust statement. We are also asking each member to highlight the contractors on their trust statement to make it easier for the Alberta government to read their paperwork.

Section 5. Payment Information - Do not fill out, it will be paid for you.

Section 6. Declaration - Read, sign and date.

WHAT TO BRING TO LOCAL 46

WHEN YOU COME DOWN TO FILL OUT YOUR APPLICATION

- ✓ A passport or a copy of your passport identification page.
- ✓ Any Apprenticeship graduation certificates. (Union or non-union).
- ✓ Washington State Electrical License.
- ✓ Miscellaneous Information.
- ✓ They will pay for all application fees. You will have to pay for a work permit at the border in which you will be reimbursed for later.
- ✓ If you have a DWI, contact the nearest Canadian Consulate to see if it can be removed from your record.
- ✓ At 960 hours you are eligible for Canadian Unemployment.
- ✓ Bring a Calculator.

WORKING IN CANADA

Local 424 in Edmonton Alberta, Canada is in immediate need of nearly five hundred (500) journeymen electricians. They have invited several Northwest Locals to work with them to fill this need with a fast-track temporary worker qualification process. To participate in this dispatch process you must be an American citizen and an Active Local 46 member.

If you are seriously committed to traveling and working in Canada, we may assist you in the preparation of this Qualification Certificate by providing you with work history, hours from the trust, and will also provide you with the required letter from Local 46 to Local 424. Local 46 will need to send the application to Local 424. They will not accept any applications sent by individuals.

TRADES NEEDED

Journeyman Electricians (inside wireman) and Instrument Technicians.

ESTIMATED DURATION

The Shell Scotford Refinery project is estimated to be 4 to 6 months.

JOBSITE

The jobsite, considered new construction, is an expansion to the Shell Scotford Refinery. Almost all work will be outside, so winter work wear is required. In mid February the temperature is 15 degrees F.

LOCATION

The jobsite is located in Ft. Saskatchewan approximately 24 miles from Edmonton. Dedicated Bussing is provided throughout the greater Edmonton region to and from the site.

WORK HOURS

Currently the jobsite is working a, 5-10 schedule Monday to Thursday. Friday's are Time and ½ and any work on Saturday or Sunday is at double time.

TAXES

Canadian taxes will be deducted from the workers checks.

\$0 - \$38,000 is at 25%

\$38,000 - \$76,000 is at 32%

\$76,000 - \$123,000 is at 36%

Above \$123,000 is at 39%.

Both the Canadian Income Tax Act and the US Internal Revenue Code make provisions to prevent double taxation, in the form of tax credits. The taxes paid in Canada would be reported on a personal tax return due April 15th of each year. These taxes would be fully credited against your US tax liabilities and your US tax return as a foreign tax credit, thus ensuring you are not subject to double taxation. At this time it is highly recommended you personally verify this information with a tax consultant.

TRUST FUND MONIES

Hourly rate of pay plus holiday vacation pay will be paid on a weekly basis by check or direct deposit.

ERTS

We do not have a reciprocal ERTS agreement at this time.

American travelers have the option of rolling the money from the pension into Health & Welfare Fund. The two combined will equal \$ 7.09 per hour; which is just shy of our \$ 7.20 that goes into our Health and Welfare. The other option is to leave Pension and Health & Welfare monies in local 424. Vesting for pension is 500 hours worked and eligibility for Health & Welfare is 300 hours and a one month waiting period. The 500 hours is not just one years credit, it will fully vest you I n their pension plan. One dollar from every Journeyman's gross earnings will be remitted directly to a Servus Credit Union RRSP (Registered Retirement Savings Plan) along with any contractor RRSP monies on overtime. It is a credit union account in your name, the money is all yours.

PER DIEM

Currently Accommodation allowance is \$100.00 for every day worked. Canadian work permit and American passport are required to qualify for TAAP monies. Your passport is the only proof you need to start receiving the per diem right away.

They will pay \$370.00 for you to travel to Edmonton and \$370.00 upon lay off. 60% of initial \$370.00 is paid on the first check and balance paid after 30 calendar days. Terminal paid **only** upon lay off for shortage of work, and is paid on final paycheck.

Accommodations are the responsibility of the worker. When looking for accommodations, consider Edmonton's South East side, as that is where the Union and Training offices are located.

LOCAL 424 UNION DUES

All travelers pay the same amount as Local Union 424 members less the international portion.

January 1, 2010 - \$65.48/month

May 2, 2010 - \$67.44

Building Trades of Alberta dues are 0.05 per hour. Canadian Building Trades dues are 0.01 per hour effective May 2, 2010.

LOCAL 46 UNION DUES

The members who go to Canada will pay Local 46 Basic dues.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

You need health care insurance with out-of-country coverage for your initial travel. With your work permit you will be eligible to apply of Canadian Plan insurance at no cost to you. This plan provides basic health care (not dental, pharmaceutical vision, etc.)

CANADIAN SOCIAL INSURANCE

The contractor will make arrangements for you to receive a temporary Canadian Social Insurance number with Service Canada.

WORK GEAR

Coveralls on all new construction is your responsibility, gloves hard hat and all safety wear will be provided. You are required by law to have CSA (Canadian Standard Association) approved work boots, the approximate cost is \$100-200. These boots are generally cheaper to purchase in Canada than in the USA. Ensure you have travel money for incidentals. Part of your first two days in Alberta, the contractor will take each person to a store that has boots and other cold weather gear.

DRUG & ALCOHOL TEST

Arrangements will be made for a mandatory pre access drug & alcohol test upon arrival in Edmonton. Nobody is allowed to report to site until clean test results are verified. If you fail the drug and alcohol test you will not receive a job or travel money.

CSTS

Construction Safety Training System course is a computer interactive safety training course that will be delivered at the Local 424 Training Centre prior to starting work.(approximately 2.5 hours) There is no cost to travelers for this course.

TOOL LIST

The IBEW Local 424 has a tool list. Only the tools that are on the tool list will be allowed on the job.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Trusted Source with Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training (AAIT). IBEW Local Union 424 is a trusted source with Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training (AAIT) in a special process for obtaining fast-track qualifying manpower. IBEW Local Union 46 is a Trusted Source with IBEW Local Union 424. Other IBEW Locals included in this exclusive plan are 48 - Portland, 73 - Spokane, 280 – Salem and 932 Coos Bay.

Temporary Foreign Worker applications are completed by interested Local 46 members. Local 46 will review applications and mail them to Local 424 to expedite the process rather than send to AAIT. Local 424 will send recommendation to AAIT for approval. AAIT sends approval to Local 424 and employer if all is in order. Local 424 will inform AAIT of arrival dates and randomly audit the applicants. AAIT will verify work dates with employer Human Resources and work experience with employer supervisors.

We recommend you list as many hours as possible in case some hours cannot be verified i.e., employer no longer in business, etc.

If you have listed work history outside of Local 46 in your application the responsibility is on you to prove to Local 46 it is true and accurate. If Local 46 cannot attest to the source or accuracy this work history will not be accepted.

EMPLOYER(S) DOCUMENT REQUIRED

Employer documents will be required if your application becomes subject to random auditing. It is up to your own discretion if you are going to provide this information to IBEW Local 424 at the time of application submission or if you will obtain this on request. Consider that you will be in Canada at the time this may be requested increasing the difficulty of assembling these letters or forms from employers of previous work history.

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS

Be advised: Any criminal conviction and impaired driving is a criminal offence in Canada. If you have been convicted of a DUI or reckless driving, consult a lawyer prior to applying for work on Canada.

APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE

CONTACT FROM IBEW LOCAL 424

If you are selected to go to work IBEW Local Union 424 will send you a letter of acceptance and information on obtaining the work permit.

ASSIGNED A CONTRACTOR

You will be assigned to a project/employer and will check-in at IBEW Local Union 424. You cannot be transferred to another project/employer. When the project is done, you check-out of IBEW Local Union 424 and you return home. You will not be placed on an Out of Work list.

WORK PERMIT FEE

You will be required to pay the \$150.00 work permit fee that will be requested from Immigration Canada for the process of this permit. This will be reimbursed by the contractor.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Insure you bring copies of all State and IBEW Trade Certifications (license), Business Manager Introduction letter, and paid up dues receipt, valid American Passport, and proof of medical insurance coverage.

ARRIVAL IN EDMONTON

Arrivals should be planned for Saturday or Sunday so that so that paperwork, CSTS and Drug tests can be arranged for Monday and Tuesday. If you are driving, check to be certain your auto insurance liability limits meets or exceeds the minimum amount required in Canada. In addition contact your auto insurance company and have them mail you proof of insurance that is good in Canada. This should be at no cost to you. You will be given living accommodations when you arrive for the first two nights. During this time you will be assisted in preparations to begin work such as obtaining a Canadian Social Insurance number (similar to SSN), drug testing, purchasing approved safety boots, safety training, etc. At this time you could seek temporary housing for your stay in Canada and open a required Canadian banking account. Contact local 46 to verify that you have been put on traveling status before you leave to Alberta. Local 46 will change your status to travelling and hold your number until you return. If you are laid off in Canada, termination notices may be faxed to your Local 46 dispatcher. Then call Local 46 with instructions of what to do and when to return home.

THE INTERPROVINCIAL STANDARDS RED SEAL

OBTAINING THE CERTIFICATE

The Canadian Interprovincial Red Seal is a legal requirement and must be challenged within 180 days of arriving in Canada. The Local and employer's goals are to help you obtain a Red Seal certificate. You will be working as restricted journeyman until a point in time the employer writes a positive letter of recommendation indicating you are working at the level of certified electrician in Alberta and the Red Seal exam may be taken. Until then you will not be allowed to work without direct supervision. They will wait until you tell them that you are ready to take the exam.

Refresher training in preparation for challenging the Red Seal exam will be provided by the IBEW/ECAA Electrical Training Center. This could happen a number of ways: In the evenings and weekends in the

Edmonton Training centre In the Mobile Training trailer (see IBEW Hour Power Training Trailer) or through on-line internet based system.

You need a 70% passing score and. If you fail you can re-take at a cost. The employer could recommend a third attempt but only with another minimal 40 hours of training first. The Red Seal certificate is good for life. Not like a state license that has to be renewed.

CERTIFICATE BENEFITS

Having the Alberta Trade Qualification Certificate or the Interprovisional Red Seal Certificate will allow future work opportunities without having to take the examination again.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

When you pass the 960 hour mark, you will become eligible for Canadian Unemployment.

When you are laid off, if there is more work in Edmonton, you will receive a new work order, you will have to drive to the United States Canadian border, 7 hours one way, to pick up a new work visa. (You may be able to get it at the Edmonton Airport, but it is probably in a secure area only accessed by arriving flights)

If you get hurt on the job, they have our equivalent of worker's compensation.

We will have to piss test with Can Am right away before you drive to Canada. Then officially piss test in Canada.

Shell Oil has approved a 5 x 10's work week.

USEFUL LINKS

There may be more information on these Local's web sites, especially IBEW Local 48:

[424 - Edmonton](#)

[48 - Portland](#)

[73 - Spokane](#)

[280 - Salem](#)

[932 - Coos Bay](#)

ALBERTA APPRENTICESHIP & INDUSTRY TRAINING

<http://www.tradesecrets.gov.ab.ca/>

SAMPLE CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIAN PRACTICE INTERPROVINCIAL RED SEAL EXAM

http://www.tradesecrets.gov.ab.ca/trades/pdf/trade_practice_exams/003_IP_PracticeExam.pdf

ALBERTA CANADA TRADE CERTIFICATION PROCESS

http://www.alberta-canada.com/immigration/media/wa_trades_certification_en.pdf

RED SEAL THE INTERPROVINCIAL STANDARDS RED SEAL PROGRAM

<http://www.red-seal.ca/w.2lc.4m.2@-eng.jsp>

CANADA REVENUE AGENCY – WHAT ARE INCOME RATES

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/fq/txrts-eng.html>