



## AWS Certified Welder

Certification website: [Certified Welder Program : Certification : American Welding Society \(aws.org\)](https://aws.org)

### Credential Summary

The Certified Welder program is performance-based, with no prerequisite courses or certifications required, that tests welders to procedures used in the structural steel, petroleum pipelines, sheet metal, and chemical refinery welding industries.

### Overview

- **Related Instructional Hours:** 80
- **Exam details:** Certified Welder exam
- **Third party testing provider:** American Welding Society (AWS)
- **Exam cost:** \$500
- **Renewal details:** Certification good for 3 years
  - Renewal by submitting Certified Welder Application and Maintenance of Welder Certification applications
  - Renewal fee is \$75
  - Every 9 years must recertify by examination, approved endorsements, recertification course, or 80 hours of continuing education

### Job Opportunities

- **Relevant SOC codes**
  - Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers 51-4121
  - Welding, Soldering, and Brazing machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders 51-4122
  - Structural Iron and Steel Workers 47-2221
- **Demand information**
  - Average flame ranking = 3.49/5
- **Average Wages**
  - Range from \$43,870 (21.09 per hour) to \$62,510 (4430.05 per hour)  
(Average wage pulled as of October 2023)

### Knowledge, Skills, and Competencies

- AWS courses offer immersive experiences that encourage learners to actively think, question and draw conclusions.
- Procedures used in the structural steel, petroleum pipelines, sheet metal, and chemical refinery welding industries.
- Provision to test to a company-supplied or non-code welding specification.



## Post Secondary Relevance

- **Credit for prior learning**
  - Ivy Tech gives credit
- **Next level programs of study**
  - Welding Technology
  - Gas Welding processes
  - Shield Metal Arc Welding
  - Principles of Welding Technology