



AWS Sense: Entry Level Welder

Certification website: [AWS SENSE Program \(senseonline.org\)](https://senseonline.org)

Credential Summary

The AWS SENSE Program is a comprehensive set of minimum Standards and Guidelines for Welding Education programs. Schools can incorporate SENSE into their own curriculum in order to help attain Perkins funding as well as to help ensure an education that is consistent with other SENSE schools across the nation. This program is fully supported by the American Welding Society (AWS). The AWS SENSE Program shall not be confused with the AWS Certified Welder certification program.

Overview

- **Related Instructional Hours:** 120-160
- **Exam details:** SENSE Level I – Entry Level Welder Training Performance exam
- **Third party testing provider:** American Welding Society (AWS)
- **Exam cost:** \$500
- **Renewal details:** Certification does not require renewal

Job Opportunities

- **Relevant SOC codes**
 - Welding, Soldering, and Brazing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders 51-4122
 - Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers 51-4121
 - Structural Iron and Steel Workers 47-2221
- **Demand information**
 - Average flame ranking = 3.49/5
- **Average Wages**
 - Ranges from \$43,870 (21.09 per hour) to \$62,510 (30.05 per hour)
(Average wage pulled as of October 2023)

Knowledge, Skills, and Competencies

- Safety & Health of Welders
- Drawing & Welding Symbol Interpretation
- Thermal Cutting Processes: OFC, PAC, CAC-A, & Mechanized OFC
- Welding Processes: SMAW, GMAW, FCAW, & GTAW

Post Secondary Relevance

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