



Five Minute Meeting:

Topic: Welding Operator Qualifications Update-Pre-Requisite Welding Exams -2 Year Interval

Date: July 10, 2023

Audience: All Company welders performing work on gas facilities, their Supervisors, Management and Leadership, Quality Management, GC, OQ, NDE and contractors

The key thing you need to know.

- The following four written exams for welding OQs will be updated and assigned as pre-requisites to existing 3XXX series welding OQ's:
 - OQ-2215 "Steel Pipe Joining-General ARC Welding"
 - OQ-2219 "Low Hydrogen Welding"
 - OQ-2220 "GMAW-Gas Metal Arc Welding"
 - OQ-2221 "GTAW-Gas Tungsten Arc Welding"
- The expiration dates for all active welding OQ's that are currently held by welders, will be unchanged. The interval for new OQ's with written exam, will change from 4 to 2 years.
- Failure of a prerequisite OQ will result in the dependent OQ's being suspended. Individuals will get three attempts to pass before being locked out for 30 days. Passing the pre-requisite OQ will re-instate the dependent OQs.
- OQ-2215, OQ-2219, OQ-2220 and OQ-2221 will appear in profile governance tools, OQ card and automated notification for expiration, testing reminder and scheduling.
- The OQ Program Manager will work with functional areas to ensure that the welders are assigned the new OQ's.

Why it matters to you.

- The changes will allow better tracking of welding pre-requisite exams and will improve the notification process for expiring welding written exams.
- The new exams will also include AOC questions to better align with the Operator Qualification program requirements.

Key discussion points

- Holding OQ-2215, OQ-2219, OQ-2220, or OQ-2221 does not qualify an individual to weld. They are prerequisite OQs to the welding OQs (OQ-3XXX). Only the OQ-3XXX series allows individuals to weld.
- Current expiration dates will not change. The interval will change as individuals come up for requalification and test.
- Supervisors, coworkers, and contractors will be able to track when these pre-requisite OQ's are coming due by scanning their ITS QR Code. Auto notifications will be sent to internal PGE employees and their supervisors 90, 60, 30, and 7 days before the OQ is to expire.
- If a qualification is about to expire, it is up to the individual to notify their supervisor and the OQ team.
- For a comprehensive list of current Operator Qualifications, please refer to PG&E document QG-4008 "Guide to Operator Qualifications". Please keep in mind that the "Guide to Operator Qualifications" is a living document that is routinely updated. Always refer to the most recent copy in the PG&E Technical Information Library or through CORE to ensure access to the most up to date information.

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Questions to ask for understanding.

- **Question #1:** I failed OQ-2215 three times and am now locked out for 30 days. Am I qualified to weld?

Answer #1: No, failure of a pre-requisite OQ will result in a related OQ being suspended. After the 30-day period, the individual is allowed to re-test on the prerequisite OQ. If the individual passes the exam, their related welding OQs will be reinstated, and the individual will now be qualified to weld again.

- **Question #2:** My OQ-3100 and OQ-3101 lapsed, but my OQ-2215 is still showing as good on my scan card, am I still qualified to weld?

Answer #2: No, OQ-2215 does not qualify an individual to weld. Welders must hold one or more of the OQ-3XXX series in order to weld.

- **Question #3:** What are the current weld OQ's and their pre-requisites?

Answer #3: Below table shows the current weld OQ's and their pre-requisites:

| Code | Prerequisite OQ tasks | | Code | Prerequisite OQ tasks |
|---------|-----------------------|--|---------|--------------------------------|
| OQ-3010 | OQ-2215 | | OQ-3204 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2220 |
| OQ-3020 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2220 | | OQ-3207 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2219 & OQ-2221 |
| OQ-3100 | OQ-2215 | | OQ-3210 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2221 |
| OQ-3101 | OQ-2215 | | OQ-3212 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2220 |
| OQ-3102 | OQ-2215 | | OQ-3214 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2220 & OQ-2221 |
| OQ-3110 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2219 | | OQ-3215 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2219 |
| OQ-3111 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2219 | | OQ-3216 | OQ-2215 |
| OQ-3112 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2219 | | OQ-3301 | OQ-3110 |
| OQ-3120 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2220 | | OQ-3302 | OQ-3110 |
| OQ-3121 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2220 | | OQ-3310 | OQ-3110 & (OQ-3301 or OQ-3302) |
| OQ-3122 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2220 | | OQ-3312 | OQ-3110 & (OQ-3301 or OQ-3302) |
| OQ-3201 | OQ-2215 & OQ-2219 | | | |

- **Question #4:** Will my OQ profile change automatically?

Answer #4: OQ program manager will work with functional areas within PG&E to update the OQ profile currently held by welders. Contractor admins must ensure that the profiles are updated for their welders. All the pre-requisite OQ's should be maintained in the OQ profile for Welders.

Who do I contact with questions.

Ronda Shupert, Manager Gas Qualifications

For additional information:

To obtain help with qualifications, call the Gas Qualifications Helpdesk at: 1-885-85-GO-CAP, Option 4. Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday