

American Welding Society®

AWS D15.1 Railroad Welding Specification for Cars and Locomotives Endorsement Description

Introduction

This document, D15.1 Railroad Welding Specification for Cars and Locomotives Endorsement Description, provides candidates guidance in the examination process. AWS strongly advises those who apply for the endorsement examination to read this document, paying particular attention to the Test Specifications and Examination References to gain better understanding of the content covered by this exam. The endorsement description is subject to change.

Any applicant seeking CWI certification can take this examination as his or her initial Part C Codebook examination. To access the CWI Examination User Guide, click HERE. The CWI Examination User Guide contains important information on the rules, policies, procedures, and exam content for those intending to take the CWI exams.

Endorsement Scope

The current D15.1 Railroad examination covers content from the following standard:

- AWS D15.1/D15.1M:2019 -AMD1 *Railroad Welding Specification for Cars and Locomotives*

AWS QC1:2016-AMD1- *Specification for AWS Certification of Welding Inspectors* provides for endorsements that may be added to the CWI and SCWI certifications. Endorsements are an indication of an additional knowledge, skill or ability documented in writing and added to an individual's certification credential(s).

Endorsement Candidate Eligibility Criteria

Existing CWIs and SCWIs who wish to obtain an endorsement which documents their knowledge, skills, and abilities in using the D15.1 Railroad Welding Specification can take the examination.

Training Requirements

This endorsement has no mandatory training requirements. Candidates are encouraged to attend training seminars or workshops related to the D15.1 Railroad Welding Specification or to self-study to improve their familiarity with this standard.

Examination Requirements

Candidates seeking the D15.1 Code endorsement shall pass the D15.1 Railroad examination.

Successful candidates must correctly answer at least 72% of the questions to pass the examination. Candidates who do not pass the exam on a first attempt may retest in accordance with the re-examination requires laid out in AWS QC1:2016-AMD1- *Specification for AWS Certification of Welding Inspectors,* Clause 6.2.

Initial Certification or 9-year Recertification Eligibility

For candidates seeking initial certification at the CWI level, this examination satisfies the requirements of Clause 6.2.1 of AWS B5.1:2013- AMD1- *Specification for the Qualification of Welding Inspectors.*

For existing CWIs and SCWIs, successful completion of this endorsement satisfies the examination requirements for recertification under Clauses 16.2.1 or 16.3.1, as applicable, of AWS QC1:2016-AMD1- *Specification for AWS Certification of Welding Inspectors,* provided that the endorsement is taken during the immediate 9-year period.

Test Specifications

Test Specifications are a breakdown of exam content areas appearing in the examination along with the proportion of the exam devoted to each content area.

Subject weights for each of these areas are in conformance with the Code Applications examination requirements as expressed in Clause 7.1 of AWS B5.1:2013 AMD1- *Specification for the Qualification of Welding Inspectors.*

Content Areas	Minimum Percent of Questions on Exam
Qualification	25%
Fabrication	25%
Inspection	25%
Reports and Records	5%
Materials and Design	5%

Examination Details

The open-book examination consists of 50 four-option multiple-choice questions.

Examination Delivery

The examination is a computer-based test (CBT) delivered at Prometric Testing Centers throughout the world.

CBT Exam Timing Information

The overall seat time allotted is 140 minutes (2 hours and 20 minutes) from check-in to check-out at the test center.

The time that can be used to answer questions is 120 minutes (2 hours).

Section of Testing	Time in Minutes
Candidate Confirmation Page	2
Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA)	2
Introduction & Tutorials	15
Exam Question Answering	120
Finish Page	1
Total	**140**

Examination Reference

Most exam questions are directly answerable from the provided reference. It is to the candidate's benefit to use the codebook edition indicated below as exam questions are based on the edition listed. A candidate who chooses to use a codebook edition that is not listed does so at his/her own risk. AWS bears no responsibility for a candidate's failure to obtain certification as a result of this choice.

- AWS D15.1/D15.1M:2019 *Railroad Welding Specification for Cars and Locomotives*

Candidates are permitted to bring a printed copy of the standard exam reference. Codebooks used during the exam must be the original or permanently bound printed copy (as by stitching or glue), or securely fastened in its cover by fasteners that penetrate all pages. Printed Codebooks may be annotated or tabbed, but no loose sheets of paper are permitted (other than published errata).

A PDF version of the standard will be accessible on-screen for this exam. AWS recommends becoming proficient at navigating digital codebooks prior to the exam. For example, experience using PDF bookmarks to navigate standards can help test-takers find important portions of the codebook more quickly. Candidates not familiar with navigating conventional PDF documents are welcome to review the computer-based testing frequently asked questions (CBT FAQs) found HERE. Some features of conventional PDF navigation may be disabled by Prometric for security reasons.

Endorsement Fee Structure

For candidates in the United States and Canada, exam fees are due at time of registration and are paid directly to AWS. For the AWS exam price list, click HERE.

For international (outside of the US and Canada) candidates, exam fees are due at time of registration and paid to the International Agent representing AWS. Agents can provide pricing information regarding international exams. At this time, the D15.1 Railroad Welding Specification examination is only offered in English.

Endorsement Credential

Endorsements earned will be updated in each CWI or SCWI's certification profile on the AWS website. Status can be checked via the QR code on the back of the CWI wallet card or via the Quikcheck web link.

Renewal Requirements

If the exam was taken as initial Part C exam and the candidate has become a CWI eventually, the candidate is required to renew the CWI exam every 3 years, every 6 years, and needs to recertify every 9th year.

Once all renewal requirements have been met via the renewal application and all administrative fees have been paid in full, the CWI Certification will be renewed. For further information concerning the CWI Certification renewal, click HERE to review the QC1 *Specification for AWS Certification of Welding Inspectors.*

The endorsement does not have any requirements for renewal. It will automatically be renewed at each CWI renewal or recertification. The endorsement will continue to be listed in an approved manner.

Professional Development Hours

Candidates who successfully complete pre-exam training to prepare for the D15.1 Railroad endorsement examination may gain Professional Development Hours (PDHs) in accordance with QC1 clause 16.5.