



BC Mine Blaster Certifications and Prerequisites

Contents

Surface Blaster - 3rd Class.....	2
Surface Blaster - 2nd Class	3
Surface Blaster - 1st Class	4
Underground Blaster - 3rd lass	5
Underground Blaster - 2nd Class.....	6
Underground Blaster - 1st Class.....	7
Seismic Endorsement.....	8
Equivalent Certification.....	9

Surface Blaster - 3rd Class

The regulatory exam focuses on regulatory requirements, magazines, care and handling of explosives, guarding, and transportation safety. The technical exam focuses on surface blasting techniques.

Completing the certification process qualifies individuals to handle explosives, assist in mine blasting preparation, receive training from a certified BC Mine Blaster, and perform single shots on a mine surface.

Prerequisites:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 18 years of age• At least two months on a pattern under the direct supervision of a certified BC Mine Blaster OR have a valid WorkSafeBC Avalanche Control Blaster Certification.
Applicant Must Provide:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for BC Mine Blaster Certification• Proof of ID• Digital photo (for the applicants secure ID card)• Police Information Check (PIC)• Proof of experience (e.g., logbook) and/or letter of reference from an employer or a certified BC Mine Blaster
Passing Grade for Each Online Exam:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 75%

Surface Blaster - 2nd Class	
<p>The regulatory exam focuses on regulatory requirements, magazines, care and handling of explosives, guarding, and transportation safety. The technical exam focuses on surface blasting techniques.</p> <p>Completing the certification process qualifies individuals to perform general surface mine blasting operations outside of defined urban zones.</p>	
Prerequisites:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 18 years of age • At least six months on pattern, with a minimum of 12 blasts under the direct supervision of a certified blaster • BC Mine Surface Blaster - 3rd Class OR equivalent experience/certification from another jurisdiction
Applicant Must Provide:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application for BC Mine Blaster Certification • Proof of ID • Digital photo (for the applicants secure ID card) • Police Information Check (PIC) • Proof of experience (e.g., logbook) and/or letter of reference from an employer or a certified BC Mine Blaster
Passing Grade for Each Online Exam:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75%

Surface Blaster - 1st Class

The regulatory exam focuses on regulatory requirements, magazines, care and handling of explosives, guarding, and transportation safety. The technical exam focuses on surface blasting techniques and urban or close proximity blasting.

Completing the certification process qualifies individuals to perform all general surface mine blasting operations in all zones.

Prerequisites:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 18 years of age• At least six months experience on close proximity blasting projects, with a minimum of 20 blasts under the direct supervision of a blaster with a BC Mine Surface Blaster - 1st class certification.• BC Mine Surface Blaster - 2nd Class OR equivalent experience/certification from another jurisdiction
Applicant Must Provide:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for BC Mine Blaster Certification• Proof of ID• Digital photo (for the applicants secure ID card)• Police Information Check (PIC)• Proof of experience (e.g., logbook) and/or letter of reference from an employer or a certified BC Mine Surface Blaster - 1st class.
Passing Grade for Each Online Exam:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 80%

Underground Blaster - 3rd Class

The regulatory exam focuses on regulatory requirements, magazines, care and handling of explosives, guarding, and transportation safety. The technical exam focuses on underground single-shot blasting activities.

Completing the certification process qualifies individuals to handle and assist with mine blasting preparation, to be trained by a certified BC Mine Blaster and perform single shots in a non-coal underground mine.

Prerequisites:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 18 years of age• Assistance on a minimum of 12 single-shot charges under the direct supervision of a certified BC Mine Blaster
Applicant Must Provide:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for BC Mine Blaster Certification• Proof of ID• Digital photo (for the applicants secure ID card)• Police Information Check (PIC)• Proof of experience (e.g., logbook) and/or letter of reference from an employer or a certified BC Mine Blaster
Passing Grade for Each Online Exam:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 75%

Underground Blaster - 2nd Class

The regulatory exam focuses on regulatory requirements, magazines, care and handling of explosives, guarding, and transportation safety. The technical exam focuses on underground blasting techniques.

Completing the certification process qualifies individuals to perform all general underground mine blasting operations, except for underground coal.

Prerequisites:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 18 years of age• At least 60 days working with a certified Underground Mines Blaster, with a minimum of 12 face rounds or two long-hole blasts• BC Mine Underground Blaster 3rd Class OR equivalent experience/certification from another jurisdiction
Applicant Must Provide:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for BC Mine Blaster Certification• Proof of ID• Digital photo (for the applicants secure ID card)• Police Information Check (PIC)• Proof of experience (e.g., logbook) and/or letter of reference from an employer or a certified BC Mine Blaster
Passing Grade for Each Online Exam:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 75%

Underground Blaster - 1st Class

The regulatory exam focuses on regulatory requirements, magazines, care and handling of explosives, guarding, and transportation safety. The technical exam focuses on underground coal mine blasting techniques and working in a coal environment.

Completing the certification process qualifies individuals to perform underground blasting operations in underground coal mines only.

Prerequisites:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 18 years of age• Experience working under the direct supervision of a blaster with a BC Mine Underground Blaster - 1st Class (Shot Firer) certification for 12 underground coal blasting operations OR equivalent.• BC Mine Underground Blaster - 2nd Class
Applicant Must Provide:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for BC Mine Blaster Certification• Proof of ID• Digital photo (for the applicants secure ID card)• Police Information Check (PIC)• Proof of experience (e.g., logbook) and/or letter of reference from an employer or certified BC Mine Blaster
Passing Grade for Each Online Exam:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 80%

Seismic Endorsement

The regulatory exam focuses on regulatory requirements, magazines, care and handling of explosives, guarding, and transportation safety. The technical exam focuses on seismic blasting activities.

Completing the certification process qualifies individuals to set off charges in relation to exploration activities: handle and assist with blast preparation and perform seismic blasts and single-series electric blasts.

Prerequisites:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 18 years of age• Experience assisting in setting a minimum of six seismic blast operations under the direct supervision of a certified blaster
Applicant Must Provide:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for BC Mine Blaster Certification• Proof of ID• Digital photo (for the applicants secure ID card)• Police Information Check (PIC)• Proof of experience (e.g., logbook) and/or letter of reference from an employer or a certified BC Mine Blaster
Passing Grade for Each Online Exam:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 75%

Equivalent Certification

The equivalent blaster certification process, under the [Canadian Free Trade Agreement](#), allows individuals with valid blaster certifications from other Canadian provinces or territories to transfer their qualifications.

To obtain credentials in B.C., applicants must complete a regulatory exam to ensure familiarity with the regulations applicable in BC.

The regulatory exam focusses on regulatory requirements, magazines, care and handling of explosives, guarding, and transportation safety.

During the interview, the examiner determines which blaster certification the applicant qualifies for. Applicants must provide proof of equivalent certification from another jurisdiction at the interview.

Avalanche Control Blaster

To conduct blasting on BC mine sites, applicants must hold both a WorkSafeBC Avalanche Control Blaster Certificate and a Surface Blaster – 3rd Class certificate. The Surface Blaster – 3rd Class certificate must be obtained through the standard application process.

Prerequisites:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 18 years of age• A current, valid blaster certificate from another Canadian provincial or territorial jurisdiction, outside of B.C., OR• A valid WorkSafeBC Avalanche Control Blaster Certificate
Applicant Must Provide:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for BC Mine Blaster Certification• Valid existing Blaster certificate• Proof of ID• Digital photo (for the applicants secure ID card)• Police Information Check (PIC)• Proof of experience (e.g., logbook) and/or letter of reference from an employer or a certified BC Mine Blaster
Passing Grade for Online Exam:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 75%