



## BC Mine Supervisor Certification – Frequently Asked Questions

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## **1. What is the BC Mine Supervisor Certification?**

The Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (Ministry) completed a review, with First Nations, industry and labour, of specific portions of the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia (the Code). As a result of the review and consensus recommendations from all parties, new provisions came into force February 2017.

One of the new provisions added to the Code was the reintroduction of a Supervisor's Certification for any supervisor on a mine site to ensure a common understanding of the Code, to encourage worker safety and to ensure supervisors on a mine site are aware of their responsibilities under the Code.

## **2. What are the pre-requisites for the Certification?**

To apply for this certificate, you must:

- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Able to give and receive orders in the English language.

## **3. Who is required to have their BC Mine Supervisor Certification?**

You must hold a BC Mine Supervisor Certificate if you supervise any number of people on an exploration site or other non mining areas of a mine, including:

- A mill
- A warehouse
- A tailings storage facility
- A lab
- A maintenance area or shop
- A construction project on a mine site

This applies to all mine sites in B.C. including major mines, exploration sites, sand and gravel and placer operations, and quarries. For open pit mining activity where greater than 6 people are employed, refer to the shiftboss certificate.

## **4. If I have my BC Mine Shiftboss certification – do I need a BC Mine Supervisor Certificate?**

No, if you have a valid BC Mine Shiftboss Certificate, you do not need a BC Mine Supervisor Certificate.

## **5. Where do I go to register for the online program?**

The online program is available through the [BC Mine Certifications](#) website

Or through OpenSchool BC

<https://www.openschool.bc.ca/online/>

**6. What do I do if I have technical issues with the online program?**

Please contact OSBC Online support for assistance at [OSBC.Online@gov.bc.ca](mailto:OSBC.Online@gov.bc.ca)

**7. What do I do if I forget my UserID or password?**

The OpenSchool BC login page will guide you through the UserID and password recovery process. <https://mytraining.openschool.bc.ca/login/index.php>

**8. What is the purpose of the BC Mine Supervisor Certification?**

The certificate ensures that the person supervising work on a mine site is fully aware of their responsibilities as a supervisor under the Act and the Code.

**9. Once I complete the certification, does this mean that I have the skills to be a BC Mine Supervisor on an active mine site?**

No, the certification is not intended to replace or provide technical training on health and safety procedures, technical knowledge or ability. Each mine must provide their own training program tailored to their site's specific needs.

**10. Are there specific certification exams for each area of the mining industry?**

The BC Mine Supervisor Certification is not tailored to any specialization. Not every part of the Code may be in regular use at every type of mining operation, but all parts of the Code are applicable to every mine site depending on the situation.

The certification is intended to be transferrable from region to region, and from one mine type to another.

For example: If a supervisor with a valid Certification works in a gravel quarry, and then goes on to work in exploration, their BC Mine Supervisor Certificate is transferable with them.

**11. Who put together the BC Mine Supervisor Certification?**

The Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals, along with OpenSchool BC developed the certification. However, the framework for the certification was developed with industry and stakeholder input, and with participation from major mines, quarries, sand and gravel, exploration and placer.

**12. How long is the certification program?**

The exam has 100 questions and no two exams will be the same.

On average, it takes four hours to complete (but that may increase or decrease depending on your knowledge of the Code).

The certification program is active for each registrant for six weeks from the date of registration – meaning you can take as long or as little time as you like to complete

**13. What is the passing grade?**

The passing grade is 80% and each student gets three tries to pass. The exam is fully open book, and you may stop and start the exam as many times as you like.

**14. How much is the certification program, and will I have to take it again?**

The Mine Supervisor Certification is \$100 and is valid for five years.

**15. Is it possible to purchase multiple seats for my employees?**

Yes, the system allows a bulk buy. Once the purchase is complete, a unique link will be generated to distribute to your employees so they can complete their registration and certification on their own.

**16. I have taken the program from the College of the Rockies previously, is this program the same as the BC Mine Supervisor Certification?**

No, the College of the Rockies program is not the same as the Code required BC Mine Supervisor Certification. You must obtain the government certification. However, if you have completed their program, it will help you successfully complete the exam.

**17. What do I do if I lose or misplace my certificate?**

Please contact the Ministry at [Mine.Certifications@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mine.Certifications@gov.bc.ca) to request a certificate replacement.