

Overview of the National Occupational Classification

The National Occupational Classification (NOC): Occupational Descriptions, Employment and Immigration Canada, Minister of Supply and Service Canada, 1993, provides a systematic taxonomy of occupations in the Canadian labour market. The NOC system is based on skill level and skill type criteria.

SKILL LEVEL CRITERIA		
SKILL LEVEL	EDUCATION/TRAINING	OTHER
SKILL LEVEL A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University degree (bachelor's, master's, or post-graduate) 	
SKILL LEVEL B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two to three years of post-secondary education at community college, institute of technology or CEGEP or Two to four years of apprenticeship training or Three to four years of secondary school and more than two years of on-the-job training courses or specific work experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupations with supervisory responsibilities are assigned to skill level B Occupations with significant health and safety responsibilities (e.g., fire fighters, police officers and registered nursing assistants) are assigned to skill level B
SKILL LEVEL C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One to four years of secondary school education Up to two years of on-the-job training courses or specific work experience 	
SKILL LEVEL D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to two years of secondary school and short work demonstration or on-the-job training 	

SKILL TYPE CRITERIA	
Skill type defines the type of work performed and is represented in NOC by the first number in each of the occupational area's classification.	
0 = Management Occupations 1 = Business, Finance and Administration 2 = National and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations 3 = Health Occupations 4 = Occupations in Social Sciences, Education, Government Service and Religion	5 = Occupations in Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport 6 = Sales and Service 7 = Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related Occupations 8 = Occupations Unique to Primary Industry 9 = Occupations Unique to Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities.

Refer to the *Guide to Standards and Implementation, Section H: Linkages/Transitions* for a list of occupations in the Canadian labour market related to each CTS strand.

