The field of manufacturing offers qualified people a wide variety of promising occupations. Prepare yourself for the growing career opportunities as a supervisor of assembly and fabrication.

WHAT THEY DO

This work involves supervising and co-ordinating the activities of workers in a number of processing and manufacturing operations such as

> processing metals, chemicals, minerals, or food
> manufacturing rubber products, furniture, and electronic equipment
> assembling motor vehicles

Among other duties, a supervisor sets up ways that employees can meet work schedules, co-ordinate work activities with other units, resolve problems, and also recommends ways to improve productivity and product quality. Supervisors also order materials and make recommendations about personnel, such as hiring and promotion.

MORE INFORMATION

Training
Previous related industry experience as well as knowledge of related machines, tools, and materials are essential for anyone wanting to become a supervisor in the manufacturing field. Supervisory training may also be necessary.

Professional Organizations
TechNova is the certifying body for Engineering and Applied Science Technicians and Technologists. It is a voluntary certification body.
www.technova.ca

Career and Job Prospects
Many factors affect the availability of jobs in this occupational group, including the value of the Canadian dollar, foreign markets, and the availability of raw materials. In Nova Scotia, jobs in this occupational group may also be seasonal. Despite a trend toward downsizing of middle management, this occupation is still strong with good prospects for employment.

Nova Scotia Career and Labour Market Information
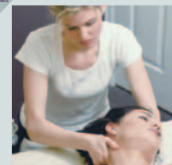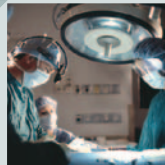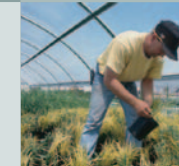For up-to-date information visit www.novascotiacareeroptions.ca

Job Futures
Canada's National Career and Education Planning Tool
www.jobfutures.ca

Human Resources and Skill Development Canada
National Occupation Classification (NOC)
www23.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca

NOC Code Search
Supervisors, Other Products Manufacturing and Assembly: 9227

NOVA SCOTIA
Education

SUPERVISORS, ASSEMBLY AND FABRICATION

Information for High School Students

PERSONAL SKILLS

NEEDED

People who succeed have skills and abilities that include the following:

> capable of supervising staff
> have good teamwork skills
> communicate effectively
> have good problem-solving skills
> work on computer and write technical documents

For some occupations, you may also need physical stamina.

WHERE THEY

WORK

In Nova Scotia, almost half of the people working in manufacturing are on the North Shore and in the Truro area. The rest are roughly divided among the Valley, South Shore, and the Halifax Regional Municipality, with a small number in Cape Breton.

The largest employers are transportation equipment, and computer, electronic, and electrical products manufacturing.

WHAT THEY

EARN

Average hourly income: $16.50
Minimum: $9.00
Maximum: $31.00

REQUIRED

COURSES

Most employers require that you finish high school. You may need courses that relate to the work, such as Mathematics 12, Physics 12, and Chemistry 12. However, this is an occupation where experience counts.

Supervisor, assembly and fabrication careers are challenging and rewarding for people of diverse identities, backgrounds, and experiences. The average age is 34, which is about the average age of workers in Nova Scotia.

To become a supervisor, you usually need several years of work experience in a related occupation. Many trades require a trade or other certificate. You may need additional training to become a supervisor.

What is the difference between assembly and fabrication supervisors, trades supervisors, contractors?

Assembly and fabrication supervisors work in processing and manufacturing—making and assembling anything from food to cars.

Trades supervisors supervise people who work in various trades—machinists, electricians, plumbers, sheet metal workers, carpenters, mechanics, heavy equipment operators, roofers, and painters.

Contractors are most likely to work in the trades. They own their own business, may work alone or co-operatively with other tradespeople, or may hire people to work or sub-contract for them.