# Occupational Profile



# **Foundry Workers**







Metals are important raw materials which are the backbone of construction and manufacturing in all advanced industries. Foundry workers are frontline production workers in metal manufacturing, operating forges to melt and shape metals, and create and repair moulds which allow for metals to be cast and pieces to be replicated with accuracy. FOCAL projects a large opening of new positions in the automotive sector for Foundry Workers over the next decade, with 270 new jobs created.

# Where do Foundry Workers work?











Production and **Processing** 

Alumina and Aluminum Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing

**Aerospace Parts** Manufacturing Industry

and Ferro-alloy Manufacturing

What do Foundry Workers do?

Foundry Workers perform regular hands-on production tasks with raw materials. They operate machinery and hand operated equipment to melt and shape metals. Below are common tasks that foundry workers encounter in their daily work.

- Make and repair sand moulds using patterns, moulding boxes, sand and hand tools following bench, floor or pit moulding methods
- Operate ovens to dry moulds
- Operate furnaces used to melt metals for moulding and casting
- Set up and operate various casting machines to cast ferrous and non-ferrous metal products; hand ladle and pour molten metal into moulds to produce castings
- Make cores for use inside moulds to form holes or void spaces in castings using core boxes, sand, hammer and wire or other reinforcing material

# Career pathways & potential earnings of Foundry Workers

Foundry Workers can progress to other roles and positions:

### **Foundry Workers**

**Foundry Workers** are entry level positions which start at minimum wage, but with experience and seniority can go up to \$29/hr.

### Mineral and Metal **Processing Supervisors**



Some positions in metal processing supervisory may require additional education in the sciences, but wages can go up to \$53/hr.

#### Manufacturing Managers



Manufacturing Managers monitor and direct the production activity of a department or business. They earn wages of up to \$72/hr.

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Foundry Workers can also apply their skills and expertise in other occupations such as the following:

- Glass forming and finishing machine operators and glass cutters
- Machine operators, mineral and metal processing
- Plastics processing machine operators

# How do I become a Foundry Worker?

There are limited educational, licensing and training requirements to become a Foundry Worker. Some requirements may vary by province or company. Below are the most commonly required qualifications to work as a Foundry Worker:

- Minimum Education: Completion of high school may be required.
- **Certification and Licensing:** Workplace safety and hazardous material certification may be required, and are usually provided by the employer.
- Training and other requirements: Several weeks of on-the-job training are required.



## What are the most important skills to have as a Foundry Worker?

Most of the necessary skills for succeeding in a role as a Foundry Worker will be acquired acquired as experience is accumulated on the job, as it is an entry level manufacturing position. The following are important skills Foundry Workers will learn, and should possess:

### Technical Knowledge and Skills

- Quality Control Analysis
- Production and Processing
- Operations Control and Monitoring
- Equipment Maintenance
- Mechanical
- Computer-aided Manufacturing (CAM) Software

#### Soft Skills

- Troubleshooting
- Critical Thinking
- Active Listening
- Time Management
- Reading Comprehension
- Manual Dexterity

# Future of Foundry Work in Canada

The job market for Foundry Workers is small, but presents opportunities for growth. In 2021, more than 2,300 Foundry Workers were employed across Canada's sectors and industries. FOCAL projects 270 job openings for Foundry Workers in Canada's automotive manufacturing sector between 2021 and 2030. FOCAL also forecasts that during the same period, nearly 230 workers are needed to fill recruitment gap in the sector created by skills shortages.

Jobs and Recruitment

Learn more about the job market for foundry workers, as well as about many other developments and new technologies in Canada's automotive manufacturing by visiting our website <a href="futureautolabourforce.ca">futureautolabourforce.ca</a>.

You can also check our social media by following these links:





