AWI
ADVANCED WELDING INSTITUTE

WELD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

CATALOG

PH 802.660.0600
FAX 802.660.0689
www.awi.edu
“NORTH COUNTRY” AREA ATTRACTIONS

All distances are from the school’s location in South Burlington, VT.

Ski/Board Areas
• Stowe Mountain (20 Miles)
• Smugglers’ Notch (20 Miles)
• Sugarbush (25 Miles)
• Bolton Valley (25 Miles)
• Whiteface (35 Miles)
• Jay Peak (45 Miles)

Skate Parks
• Talent Skate Park (5 Miles)
• Burlington Skate Park (5 Miles)
• Smugglers’ Notch Skate Park (20 Miles)

Music/Concerts
• Higher Ground (5 Miles)
• Champlain Valley Expo (5 Miles)
• Flynn Theater of Performing Arts (5 Miles)

Hunting/Fishing/Outdoor Activities
Our school is less than a 30 minute drive to some of Vermont’s thousands of acres of hunting land, miles of winding rivers/streams and only minutes away from Vermont’s largest lake, Lake Champlain. To all the hunting, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, hiking, cross-country skiing, biking, 4-wheeling, and snowmobiling enthusiasts, Vermont will not disappoint your needs.

Downtown Burlington
We are located only minutes from Burlington’s downtown area. Burlington is Vermont’s largest city and always has an array of activities and events planned. When visiting AVI be sure to check out Burlington’s Church Street and all the local restaurants/shops in the surrounding area.

Canada
With less than an hour drive you can be at Canada’s borders. So if you are looking for a little culture or just a change of scenery then you’re in luck!

Published 2015
MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission, at Advanced Welding Institute, is to properly train students to become structural and pipe welders to meet the current demand of the industry.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

AWI is committed to helping students develop marketable welding skills through quality training. Our curriculum is based on four proven strategies; lecture and discussion, demonstration, individual practice and systematic practical and written testing.

Each strategy is tailored to individual learning needs. AWI strives to give each student the personalized attention they need to excel, and focus on the developing skills that will enable each student to become certified at the highest industry standards.

HISTORY

Advanced Welding Institute opened its doors to welding students in August 2003. The concept of opening a welding school originated in 2001, as companies began asking our sister company, Vermont Nondestructive Testing (VTNDT), to perform welder certifications. As the demand for welder certifications and the need for weld training became more apparent, it was recognized how greatly the Northern New England community could benefit from an advanced post-secondary welding school.

After opening in 2003, AWI has become a valuable resource to the welding community, contributing trained and certified welders to the field. As AWI continues to expand, we hope to remain a great resource for new welders, technical high schools and contractors.
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*For a full description of all AWI policies, contact the administrative office
Advanced Welding Institute is located in South Burlington, Vermont, and is within walking distance to the city's bus routes. Our facility is equipped with twenty (20) student welding booths, all supplied with welding equipment from Lincoln Electric. In addition to the welding booths, there is also up to twelve (12) cutting stations, classroom, and library with video, reference materials, and computers. Students are provided new materials and metal that is prepped to specifications for each class.

Small class sizes at AWI will ensure the faculty and staff are readily available to give each student the individualized attention they deserve and strive for. Class size not to exceed 15 students.

All Administrative and Faculty offices are located within the 5,200 square foot facility.

Located near Burlington and its city life atmosphere but yet in close proximity to the rural Vermont wilderness, there are always plenty of things to explore. From Lake Champlain to the Green Mountains, the options are endless.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Advanced Welding Institute does not participate in Ability-to-Benefit programs therefore; all applicants must have a high school diploma or GED. Applicants should have no disabilities (including eyesight) which could prevent the proper use of equipment or hinder the safety of themselves or others. Applicants should also have the ability to understand and communicate with others in English.

Advanced Welding Institute is an equal opportunity educator.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE

To apply for admission, applicants can go on our website and print out an application and mail it to AWI or contact the school for an appointment to tour the facility and meet with an Admission Representative. Family and friends are always welcomed and encouraged to visit AWI with the applicant.

During the tour, a representative will be available to discuss admission requirements and to answer any questions pertaining to the program or about enrolling in a program AWI has to offer.

To be considered for enrollment, an Application for Admission must be submitted with a nonrefundable $50.00 application fee, one letter of reference and a 100 word essay on why they would like to attend AWI.

Once the application is accepted and processed, enrollment forms will be mailed to applicant with instructions. All forms should be reviewed, signed and returned to the office with a copy of applicant’s high school transcript or G.E.D. certificate or, indicated that transcripts will be mailed by a third party. Mail or drop off all documents to:

Advanced Welding Institute
2 Green Tree Drive, Suite 3
South Burlington, VT 05403

www.awi.edu

An interview with the Financial Aid Office will be required for all applicants whether applying for Title IV or private funding.

In the event that there are no vacancies in the applicant’s first program choice, a letter will be mailed to the applicant informing them of their status and available options. Current options available are as follows:

• Applicant will be placed on a waiting list,
• Applicant will be placed in the next available class, or
• Applicants entire deposit will be refunded.

TRANSFER OF CREDITS

Director Irick will determine eligibility on a case-by-case basis. Incoming students that request a transfer of credit will be required to meet with faculty to have previous education assessed. Students may be required to test and pass any certification(s) in any education not received at AWI. Based on this assessment, Director Irick will grant credit accordingly and notify the student in writing. Advanced Welding Institute is not required to accept transfer of credits.
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Structural Welding Program: consists of accelerated courses that train students to industry standards using American Welding Society (AWS) codes.

Combination Structural and Pipe Welding Program: is an accelerated course that trains students to industry standards using AWS, American Society of Mechanical Engineers and American Petroleum Institute codes.

Part-time Courses: are tailored to individual and company needs. Shielded Metal Arc Welding, Gas Metal Arc Welding, Gas Tungsten Arc Welding, Flux-Core Arc Welding, Oxy-Fuel Welding/Brazing and Cutting are current part-time courses offered at AWI. For more information please contact our Admissions Office.

FULL-TIME PROGRAM

Structural Welding Program

Program Objective: Structural Welding Program is designed to train students how to perform welding of plates in all positions. Upon graduation, students will be able to obtain entry level positions in construction of bridges, fabrication of structural components, and other shop applications.

Students are required but not limited to one (1) certification in each SMAW, GMAW and GTAW to pass the program.

90% of 600.0 clock hours must be completed to graduate. Programs are designed as a clock hour program, a clock hour is considered 50 minutes.

| Tuition: | $ 16,500.00 |
| Materials Fee: | $ 2,000.00* |
| Total Cost: | $ 18,500.00 |

*Materials fee includes: workbook series, metal (new), testing and certifications (up to three attempts at passing). Additional attempts after the third attempt to pass results in an additional charge of $275.00 per attempt. Price may change due to fluctuation of steel prices.

Program Courses #: STRUC-01

This program runs 15 weeks for day classes. (Detailed course descriptions can be found on pages 5-6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Clock Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WTB-1</td>
<td>Welding Technology and Blueprint Reading</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>80.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAW-2</td>
<td>Oxyacetylene Welding and Cutting</td>
<td>1 week</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMAW-3</td>
<td>Shielded Metal Arc Welding – Part I</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
<td>120.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMAW-4</td>
<td>Shielded Metal Arc Welding – Part II</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
<td>120.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMAW-12</td>
<td>Gas Metal Arc Welding – Part I**</td>
<td>1.5 weeks</td>
<td>60.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMAW-13</td>
<td>Gas Metal Arc Welding – Part II**</td>
<td>1.5 weeks</td>
<td>60.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTAW-11</td>
<td>Gas Tungsten Arc Welding</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
<td>120.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FCAW-15 Flux Core Arc Welding theory will be discussed and applied during these courses.
FULL-TIME PROGRAM

Combination Structural and Pipe Welding:

Program Objective: The Combination Structural and Pipe Welding Program is for the welding training of plates and pipe in all positions. Upon graduation, students will be able to obtain entry level positions in construction of bridges, fabrication of structural components, heating plants, pipe line welding and other job shop applications.

Students are required but not limited to one (1) certification in each SMAW, GMAW and GTA to pass the program.

90% of 960.0 clock hours must be completed to graduate. Programs are designed as a clock hour program, a clock hour is considered 50 minutes.

- Tuition: $20,500.00
- Materials Fee: $2,500.00
- Total Cost: $23,000.00

*Materials fee includes: workbook series, metal (new), testing and certifications (up to three attempts at passing). Additional attempts after the third attempt to pass results in an additional charge of $275.00 per attempt. Price may change due to fluctuation of steel prices.

Program Courses #: COMBO-01

This program runs 24 weeks for day classes. (Detailed course descriptions can be found on pages 5-6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Clock Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WTB-1</td>
<td>Welding Technology and Blueprint Reading</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>80.0 clock hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAW-2</td>
<td>Oxyacetylene Welding and Cutting</td>
<td>1 week</td>
<td>40.0 clock hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMAW-3</td>
<td>Shielded Metal Arc Welding – Part I</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
<td>120.0 clock hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMAW-4</td>
<td>Shielded Metal Arc Welding – Part II</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
<td>120.0 clock hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMAW-12</td>
<td>Gas Metal Arc Welding – Part I*</td>
<td>1.5 weeks</td>
<td>60.0 clock hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMAW-13</td>
<td>Gas Metal Arc Welding – Part II*</td>
<td>1.5 weeks</td>
<td>60.0 clock hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTAW-11</td>
<td>Gas Tungsten Arc Welding</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
<td>120.0 clock hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMAW-7</td>
<td>Shielded Metal Arc Welding Pipe*</td>
<td>2G, 5G &amp; 6G Positions Uphill</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTAW-10</td>
<td>Gas Tungsten Arc Welding Pipe*</td>
<td>2&quot; diameter schedule 80</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Students may also have the opportunity with Pipe Welding Downhill, Stainless Steel Pipe and Stainless Steel Dairy Tubing.
* FCAW – 15 Flux Core Arc Welding theory will be discussed and applied during these courses.
FULL-TIME PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Welding Technology and Blueprint Reading Course No. WTB-1

Course Content: This course presents information on welding safety, welding terms and definitions, weld defects and discontinuities, weld processes, and symbols for welding according to AWS A2.4. It also presents orthographic views and engineering drawing lines.

Oxyacetylene Welding and Cutting Course No. OAW-2

Course Content: This course provides understanding of oxyacetylene cutting and plasma cutting as well as safety practices. Skill is developed in the areas of flame cutting mild steel plate. Related information is included on weld quality and applications of fuel gases that is used in other courses.

Shielded Metal Arc Welding – Part I Course No. SMAW-3

Course Content: This course provides the student with a thorough technical understanding of arc welding, welding safety, arc welding power sources, electrode classifications and selection. It also provides training to develop the skills necessary to make quality shielded metal arc welds in all positions. Mild steel from 3/16” to 3/8” plate will be used to perform single and multi-pass welds with low hydrogen and iron powder electrodes with DC welding current.

Achievable Certifications: SMAW all position, 1/2T-2T, per AWS D1.1-2010

Shielded Metal Arc Welding – Part II Course No. SMAW-4

Course Content: This course provides training to develop skills necessary to produce quality multi-pass groove welds on 3/8” plate with backing in all positions, along with 1” plate in all positions with backing. In addition, welding related information is included about procedure and welder qualification on destructive and nondestructive testing methods.

Achievable Certifications: SMAW all positions, unlimited thickness, per AWS D1.1-2010

Gas Metal Arc Welding – Part I Course No. GMAW-12

Course Content: This course is designed to provide the student with a thorough technical understanding of welding safety, gas metal arc welding, equipment adjustments, metal transfer and shielding gases. It also provides training to develop the skill necessary to make quality gas metal arc welds in all positions on mild steel from 1/8” sheet metal to 3/8” plate, single and multiple pass using short circuit transfer. The course also illustrates problems associated with welding situations and provides corrective information.

Achievable Certifications: GMAW, all positions, 1/2T-2T, per AWS D1.1-2010

Gas Metal Arc Welding – Part II Course No. GMAW-13

Course Content: This course provides training on pulse transfer other than the short-circuiting which is covered in the Gas Metal Arc Welding – Part I course. The pulse transfer provides for high deposition rate for all position welding. This course also includes GMAW aluminum.

Achievable Certifications: FCAW, all positions, unlimited thickness, AWS D1.1-2010

Continued

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Gas Tungsten Arc Welding – Basic
Course No. GTAW-11

Course Content: This course provides the student with a thorough technical understanding of Gas Tungsten Arc Welding, characteristics and welding safety. It provides training to develop the skill necessary to make quality gas tungsten arc welds on 16 and 11 gauge mild steel, .060” and .062” gauge stainless steel and .125” aluminum using both direct and alternating current. In addition, material is presented on the weld characteristics of carbon steel, stainless steel and aluminum. Information on pulsed current is included to prepare the student for more detailed applications of pulsed current used in gas tungsten arc welding pipe.

Achievable Certifications: GTAW, 1/2T-2T, all positions, limited thickness, per AWS D.1-2010

Shielded Metal Arc Welding/Pipe – Part I
Pipe, 2G, 5G & 6G Position Uphill
Course No. SMAW-7

Course Content: This course provides the student with a thorough understanding of pipe welding, weld quality, uphill pipe procedures, preheating and interpass heat treatments. The student will develop the welding skills necessary in producing quality multipass welds on 2” diameter schedule 40 mild steel pipe in the 6G position using E6010 and E7018 electrodes.

Achievable Certifications: SMAW, all positions, unlimited thickness, per ASME Sec 9

Gas Tungsten Arc Welding/Pipe – Part I

Course Content: This course provides the student with a thorough technical understanding of gas tungsten arc welding preparation for welding pipe. It develops the skills necessary to produce quality groove welds on 2” schedule 40 steel pipe in the 2G, 5G & 6G positions.

Achievable Certifications: GTAW, all positions, unlimited thickness, per ASME Sec 9

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Possible Career Opportunities for Graduates of Structural and Combination program may differ but the following are possible options.

- Machine shops for weld repair
- Structural steel shops manufacturing I beams and structural components
- Construction industry erecting building and welding building components
- Sheet metal industry performing Gas Tungsten Arc Welding
- General fabrication
- Ornamental work
- General industry performing repair
- Dairy and pharmaceutical industry w/small diameter tubing
- Low temp/pressure in industry with small diameter (under 6”) pipe
- High temp/pressure in HVAC plants with small and large diameter pipe
- Petroleum and natural gas industry performing pipe line welding
- Steam Line Installation and boiler tube welding

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STUDENT SERVICES

A complete list of student services as well as community resources is available in the Student Services and Community Resources binders located in the Learning Resource Center and in the administrative offices. In addition, a complete listing is included in the student handbook that is provided to each student on the first day of class.

Academic Advising

Faculty and staff are readily available, with or without an appointment, to advise students in their academic progress. In the event that a student should need additional assistance for matters that are beyond academic or training issues, a list of referrals for outside counseling will be provided to the student.

Tutoring Services

Members of the faculty team are available, by appointment only, to provide one-on-one tutoring for students who are in need of additional assistance to meet their educational goals. Appointments are to be made by the student with an instructor for time available before or after normal class hours. The duration of the individualized tutoring will be decided by the instructor at his/her discretion.

Career Services:

Advanced Welding Institute works with contractors and employers in an attempt to place students upon graduation. Companies with job openings are invited to make an appointment with the school to conduct interviews or to present their job opportunities to the students. AWI will permit students to leave the school to attend job interviews nearing the end of their program.

Advanced Welding Institute believes in preparing their students for their careers after graduation. Faculty and staff are available to assist in the following areas:

- Resume Development
- Company Research
- Networking
- Cover Letters
- Interview Skills

Even though AWI has been successful in placing graduates who seek employment, AWI does not guarantee job placement or wage/benefits.

Any student who wishes to take advantage of available career services are encouraged to make an appointment with faculty or the administrative staff.

Housing:

Advanced Welding Institute does not provide on campus housing. Housing is available through RRK Enterprises to provide off campus living. For more information please email the school.

Financial Aid Assistance

Please refer to page 8 for financial aid services available.

Learning Resource Center (LRC):

The nature of Advanced Welding Institute’s welding program is technical and resources outside of the curriculum are made available in the LRC. Faculty instructs students in navigating technical specifications and interpreting the material. Structural and pipe acceptance criteria for weld certifications are reviewed in reference with general industry utilizing resources in the LRC.

A computer with internet access is also available as well as career development resources such as resume writing. Faculty will assign students allotted time to search for job opportunities on the school’s computer when requested.

Community Resources

Advanced Welding Institute has compiled a complete listing of services available in the community such as childcare, transportation, drug and alcohol counseling, mental health, medical, food pantries, meal kitchens and emergency economic issues such a loss of housing and utility services.

A complete listing of student services and community resources is available in the Learning Resource Center, main office and provided in the student handbook.

Transportation:

AWI is located within walking distance of public transportation. Taxi and rideshare opportunities are available through private sources.

Childcare:

AWI does not provide childcare services. A listing of Vermont childcare referral services is available in the Student Services and Community Resources binder.
FINANCIAL AID

Available to those who qualify.
For applicants/students interested in obtaining Federal Student Aid, please complete the following steps:

• Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

• When you apply for your FAFSA please make sure you (and a parent, if applicable) obtain a PIN number. This is how you electronically sign your application.

• Advanced Welding Institute school code for the FAFSA is 041469. This will allow the financial aid office to determine your eligibility for loans and grants upon receipt of your application.

Scholarships and Grants

• The American Welding Society has District Scholarships available which can be found at www.aws.org or the financial aid office at Advanced Welding Institute.

• The Department of Labor, in the past has allocated funding to award Workforce Investment Act (WIA) grants, for those who qualify for economic hardship.

Payment Schedule

Upon acceptance to Advanced Welding Institute, a $250 deposit must be submitted to reserve a welding booth. The deposit will be credited toward the total tuition charges.

Combination Structural and Pipe Welding Program

• First installment in the amount of $10,125 is due thirty (30) days before the commencement of classes.

• Final installment in the amount of $10,125 is due twelve (12) weeks after the program begins.

• Materials Fee is $2,500 and due by the first day of class.

• Total tuition $22,750. (reflects paid deposit).

Structural Welding Program

• First installment in the amount of $8,125 is due thirty (30) days before the commencement of classes.

• Final installment in the amount of $8,125 is due eight (8) weeks after the program begins.

• Materials Fee is $2,000 and due by the first day of class.

• Total tuition $18,250. (reflects paid deposit).

Part-time Courses

Balance of course and materials fee is due on the first day of class unless arrangements have been made through Financial Aid office.

Payment Methods

Advanced Welding Institute acceptable methods of payments are cash, checks, money orders, loans, grants and/or scholarships. Purchase orders are accepted with prior approval from the Financial Aid office.
Cancellation/Refund Policy

Federal Student Aid and Institutional Refund Policy:

- You may terminate your enrollment at any time.
- You are entitled to a full refund of tuition and fees paid if you cancel your enrollment within three (3) business days after you and the school signed the enrollment agreement.
- In the event that a student did not have the opportunity to tour the school before the commencement of classes, the student will have the opportunity to cancel their enrollment within three (3) business days after the program begins without penalty and with a full refund of all tuition and fees paid.
- Refunds for cancellations will be issued by check within ten (10) days of cancellation.

If you withdraw from the program, for any reason which makes it impractical to complete the program, the following pro rata refund will be calculated based on student’s period of enrollment* using the last day of documented attendance:

**Day 4 after you and the school sign the enrollment agreement up to the first day of classes: 100% refund of all tuition and fees paid minus the $50.00 application fee**

**After the commencement of classes and have completed less than 60% of the enrolled program: Refund of tuition and fees will be calculated for the portion of the program not completed minus a $100.00 fee**

**Completed 60% or more of the enrolled program: No refund of tuition and fees will be returned**

- Refunds for withdrawal will be issued by check within thirty (30) calendar days after the effective date of withdrawal/termination.

  * the percentage of the enrollment period completed is based on the number of scheduled clock hours completed in the period as of the last date of attendance divided by the total number of clock hours in the entire program’s enrollment period. Also see the student handbook.

Third Party Agencies

In cases of third party agencies, refunds will be issued in accordance with each agencies refund policy, or if no policy exists, when determination is made by that agencies representative that a student cannot continue with the enrolled program.

Refund information for third party funding agencies is available through the school’s Financial Aid office in accordance with each agencies policies and procedures.

GI Bill Refund Policy: In the event an eligible person receiving GI Bill educational benefits fails to enter the course, withdraws or is discontinued therefrom at any time prior to completion, such individual shall be entitled to a refund of tuition, fees and other charges for a portion of the course not to exceed the approximate pro rata portion of the total charges for tuition, fees and other charges that the length of the completed portion of the course bears to its total length.
ACADEMIC POLICIES

Curriculum
The curriculum Advanced Welding Institute follows is based on the standard teaching methods used throughout trade schools for optimal learning. AWI reserves the right to change without notice the program curriculum due to technological advances in the industry.

Teaching and Training Methods
The teaching and training methods used at Advanced Welding Institute focus on building the weld skills of each student to their highest potential. Each program begins with the assistance of audio visual aids. An emphasis is put on demonstrations for students to learn proper technique before they begin in their welding booths, along with supervised individual practice from the instructor so each student is able to learn new skills and the proper coaching. Students are tested with practical and written tests on key concepts and skills needed for the welding field. Welding testing is a key factor in each skill course, to ensure that students are able to master the standards.

Throughout the course, students have the ability to achieve multiple certifications per process. Students must maintain a minimum of one certification per process.

Grades and Progress Standards
Progress is measured at the end of each course within the program as follows:

- Achieve a minimum average of 70% on written quiz scores
- Attaining one (1) certification in each process (if applicable)
- Students must maintain a satisfactory standing in order to advance to the next course within the program
- Maintain a minimum of 90% attendance to determine that student is maintaining a satisfactory pace of completion
  (Tardiness will affect this percentage number)

- Satisfactory Academic Progress will be evaluated half way through the program

Advanced Welding Institute does not allow incompletes or repetition of courses within the program or remedial courses.

Students are required to complete the Structural Welding or Combination Structural and Pipe Welding Program within 150% of the program length.

AWI keeps a thorough record of students’ progress where grades and certifications achieved are recorded and become part of a student’s permanent file.

Student Responsibility for Missed Course Work
Students will be required to make-up all written quizzes, booth training and certification testing as a result of an absence or tardiness. The student must make arrangements with a faculty member to ensure that all work missed is made up by the end of the current course. Failure to do so could result in dismissal from the program.

Financial Aid Warning
Students will be placed on Financial Aid Warning as a consequence of not making satisfactory progress.

Warning status lasts for one payment period in which students who fail to make satisfactory progress after the warning period lose their aid eligibility and may be terminated from the program.

Withdrawal Policy
Any student who wishes to withdraw from a program is required to notify the Director or Administrator either in writing or verbally.

A student is considered a “no show” by failing to attend classes for five consecutive days without notifying school administration of the reason for the absence. At this time, the student will be considered a withdrawal as of the last day of attendance and the refund policy will be in effect.
**Pace of Completion Policy (Attendance Policy)**

AWI’s attendance policy is established for the students to prepare themselves for future employment.

In order to graduate from one of the full-time programs, students are required to maintain a satisfactory pace of completion and to attend a minimum of 90% for their enrolled program.

Lunch break is thirty (30) minutes in length and tardiness is not accepted when returning to class unless pre-approved by a faculty member. (Tardiness is 5 or more minutes beyond start time.)

**Leave of Absence Policy**

Terms for approval by Director Irick for a Leave of Absence are, but not limited to, the following:

- Accident
- Jury Duty
- Military Duty
- Death in Immediate Family
- Medical Issues
- Temporary Disability

Students may request in writing for a leave of absence but cannot exceed sixty (60) days, whether taken continuous or separate. In the case of an emergency, a representative for the student may call the institution and request a temporary Leave of Absence until the student is able to contact the institution.

If the student does not return to the school at the end of the requested time period, and/or fails to contact the school, the student will be terminated from the program, at which time the school’s refund policy will be in effect.

**Terms for Dismissal**

A student who is unable to satisfactorily achieve the knowledge and skills required by the occupation for which training is intended must be terminated per AWI and/or ACCSC requirements.

If at any time an instructor or student feels that additional time is needed to successfully complete a process and/or is having difficulty understanding the material, an instructor will be available to work with the student for additional training after school hours.

**Terms for Reinstatement**

Students who have been dismissed for academic purposes may reapply (after 30 days) in writing stating how they expect to improve on previous progress. Applications for reinstatement will be reviewed by the faculty. Student may be asked to make an appointment with an instructor to demonstrate his/her ability to weld. If reinstatement is accepted, student will be placed in the next available opening.

The Director has the authority to make the final decision. Reinstatement will not be granted to those who were dismissed due to violations under the school’s Non-Academic Suspension and Termination Policies.

**Graduation Requirements**

To receive a Certificate of Completion in the Structural Welding Program or the Combination Structural and Pipe Welding Program, each student must meet the following requirements:

- Attend at minimum 90% of the scheduled hours of the program
- Complete the program with a minimum average of 70% on written quizzes
- Achieve a minimum of one (1) AWS or ASME certification in each weld process (if applicable)
- Complete the program within 1.5 times the normal program length

All certifications are kept on file and are surrendered to students upon graduation. If students misplace or lose a certification a fee may be placed on issuing replacement certifications.
STUDENT CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS

Honor Code
AWI students are expected to conduct themselves within the guidelines of the Honor Code and Standard of Conduct while part of the AWI community. Stealing, lying and cheating are not acceptable as a member of the AWI community.

Equipment
The provided welding equipment is from Lincoln Electric. We provide welding machines, torch sets, grinders, saws and a plasma cutter. AWI uses all new materials and metal is prepped to specifications for each class.

Each student is required to bring personal equipment as well. Students are required to have:

- Leather/Fire Resistant Jacket
- Heavy Welding Gloves
- Light Welding Glove
- High top work boots (steel toe recommended)
- Welding Helmet
- Welding cap/skull cap
- Noise protection
- Flashlight
- Heat Gun (350° and 500°)
- Burning Goggles or Face Shield
- Clear safety glasses with side shields
- Carbon Steel wire brushes (1)
- Stainless Steel wire brushes (2)
- Chipping Hammer
- 10” mill file (half round-bastard cut)
- Soap Stone
- 1” adjustable wrench
- 6” side or diagonal cutting pliers
- Vice Grips
- Oxy-fuel friction lighter
- Screwdrivers (flat & Phillips head)
- Lockable tool box that can be carried or moved easily
- Fillet Gauges

Students are required to come prepared the first day of class with all their personal equipment. AWI is not responsible for lost or stolen property.

Harassment and Discrimination Policy

Advanced Welding Institute believes each student should feel safe and strives to provide a harassment free environment.

Advanced Welding Institute has a Zero Tolerance Harassment and Discrimination Policy. Any conduct based upon but not limited to a person’s race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, and disability will not be tolerated. Harassment may be verbal, non-verbal or physical. Examples of harassment include but are not limited to, racial or ethnic slurs, jokes or derogatory remarks, the use of threats, insults, or images based on a person’s characteristic or physical aggression. Zero tolerance means immediate termination.

Students are asked to report any harassment or discrimination to their Instructor or Director. Any student, faculty or staff found to have been involved in discriminatory harassment will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate suspension or termination.

Bullying/Harassment Policy

Definition: Bullying is a form of aggressive behavior, which may manifest as abusive treatment, the use of force or coercion to affect others, particularly when habitual and involving an imbalance of power. It may involve verbal harassment, physical assault or coercion.
Bullying consists of three basic types of abuse – emotional, verbal, and physical. It typically involves subtle methods of coercion such as intimidation.

**Procedure:**

The student (target) must file a harassment complaint by notifying faculty or staff, either verbally or in writing.

Once a harassment complaint has been filed, the Director will either open an investigation, or act in accordance with the Zero Tolerance Policy, thereby terminating the student immediately.

The student(s) who have a complaint against him/her for bullying will be notified and instructed to refrain from communication or contact with the target. Depending on the severity of the complaint, the Director might instruct student(s) not to return to campus until investigation is complete.

Each case will be assessed on its own merits. Factors to be considered, but not limited to, the following:

- Intensity of harassment
- Means used to harass
- Where harassment occurred
- Length of harassment

Interviews will be conducted with faculty, staff and/or other students to gain information to assess validity of the complaint. The Director will resolve the complaint promptly and if harassment has been confirmed, punishment will be dealt swiftly, at the discretion of the Director.

Consequences, one or a combination of two or more, can be as follows:

- Reprimand
- Suspension
- Termination from program

**Neither party will have the right to be represented by a lawyer.**

If either party disagrees with the results, the party has the right to appeal the decision with the director. This policy may be amended at any time.

**STANDARD OF CONDUCT POLICY**

Advanced Welding Institute has a Standard of Conduct Policy to ensure a balance-learning environment. **Respect for AWI, Faculty, Staff, Students, and above all oneself.** Behaviors that are inconsistent with this standard include but are not limited to, the following:

- No student shall threaten the health, safety or welfare of oneself or others including, not limited to, harassment through intimidating or verbal abuse
- All students shall comply with AWI's harassment and non-discrimination policies
- Exhibiting disruptive and/or disrespectful behavior on campus and/or disrupting the orderly and learning activities of others will not be tolerated
- All students, faculty, and staff shall be respectful of the surrounding businesses near AWI and will not cause undue noise or activity
- Falsifying academic records or giving false information to be entered on an academic record
- Failing to comply with school officials, or representatives

**I. Comply and Respect Local, State and Federal Laws and Statutes:**

- Failing to comply with state and federal alcohol and drug policies and how these policies are reflected in the schools alcohol and drug policy,
- Possessing or using explosives, fireworks, weapons, firearms or ammunition and/or dangerous devices that could cause undue injury.

**II. Respect the Physical Facilities of the School including, but not limited to, the following:**

- Misuse and/or modify any equipment,
- Create a safety and/or fire hazard by using safety or fire equipment in a way that was not intended for,
• Vandalizing school facilities, adjacent properties and the property of others
• Trespassing
• Theft or unauthorized acquisition, removal or use of property, including tools and supplies
• Misusing technology by accessing inappropriate or illegal material

Non-Academic Suspension

Students are required to abide by the rules set forth by AWI and shall be suspended for unsatisfactory conduct to his/her, peers, AWI faculty and staff and/or AWI property. Reasons for suspension are as follows:

• Infractions of the school’s Tobacco, Alcohol and other Drug Policies
• Harassment of any kind including sexual harassment
• Discrimination based on race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability or age

Students will be advised by the Director before suspension by the school. If needed, an independent outside source will be used to counsel the student if deemed appropriate by the Director.

Maximum allowed suspensions shall be two (2) with the duration of the first suspension to be one (1) day not including the day of the offense. The duration of the second offense shall be three (3) days not including the day of the offense. The student will have a probationary period of ten (10) days of scheduled class time upon return to AWI after the second suspension.

Termination

If repeated behavior continues during probationary period, termination will follow immediately.

Immediate termination may also occur if at any time the safety of the staff or students is in question. This decision is at the discretion of the Director.

Complaint Policy and Procedure

Student concerns or complaints should first be brought to a faculty member. If the student feels that the concern or complaint was not resolved to his/her satisfaction, the student should make an appointment with Director Rick to address any issue that needs to be resolved.

Schools accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges must have a procedure and operational plan for handling student complaints. If the student does not feel that the school has adequately addressed a complaint or concern, the student may consider contacting the Accrediting Commission. All complaints considered by the Commission must be in written form, with permission from the complainant(s) for the Commission to forward a copy of the complaint to the school for a response. The complainant(s) will be kept informed as to the status of the complaint as well as the final resolution by the Commission.

Please direct all inquiries to:

Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC)
2101 Wilson Blvd/Suite 302
Arlington, VA 22201
(703) 247-4212
www.accsc.org

A copy of the Commission’s Complaint Form is available at the school and may be obtained by contacting President/Director Richard Rick or online at www.accsc.org.

www.awi.edu
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Does AWI accept financial aid?**
  Yes.

- **Is AWI an accredited school?**
  Yes, AWI is accredited by Accrediting Commissions of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC). ACCSC is listed by the Department of Education as a national accrediting agency.

- **Is AWI an AWS accredited test facility?**
  Yes, AWI is an accredited weld test facility for (AWS) American Welding Society.

- **Does AWI provide housing?**
  AWI does not provide housing but, we work with RRK Enterprises to provide short-term housing for the duration of the program. This enables our students to have an ease of mind when choosing AWI.

- **What are class sizes?**
  The largest class size is 20 students. AWI chooses to keep class sizes small to ensure all students receive the individualized attention they need to reach their highest potential.

- **Does AWI include welding certifications in the full-time programs?**
  Yes, our full-time programs include certifications. All certifications earned during your full-time program will be surrendered to you at the time of graduation and is included in tuition.

GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who have completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at:

www.awi.edu

Main School:
2 Greentree Drive
South Burlington, VT 05403

AWI ADVANCED WELDING INSTITUTE