

Trade Licensing Program

Steam Engineer & Boiler Fireman License

The applicant should be familiar with the information recommended for the lower grades (Steam Engineer Grade III, Boiler Fireman Grades IV and V) as well as the following:

1. Sketch a Water Tube Boiler to indicate the following:
 1. Support
 2. Tube banks and Water walls
 3. Tube headers
 4. Water column
 5. Gage glass
 6. Vent
 7. Boiler steam outlet valve and header valve with drain connection
 8. Safety valve(s)
 9. Soot blowers
 10. Baffles and flue gas flow
 11. Furnace temperature at burners, furnace, passes, and discharge
 12. Air preheaters
 13. Economizer
 14. Superheaters
 15. Feedwater connections to include control valve, check valve, and supply or isolation valve
 16. Surface blow line
 17. Bottom blow
 18. Breeching
 19. Location of burners
2. Step by step procedure to start a condensing steam turbine generator from completely down and cold to synchronizing the generator with an active bus and loading the generator.
3. Discuss the difference between loading an alternating current (AC) turbine-generator paralleled on the line and one not paralleled but carrying the complete connected load. Include the use and effect of the governor control and the voltage regulator in both cases.
4. Discuss the difference between an impulse and reaction turbine, an extraction turbine, back pressure turbine, reheat turbine compound turbine, and a re-entry turbine. Also general construction, dummy pistons, labyrinth rings, bearings, Kingsbury thrust bearing, lubrication, steam admission control, overspeed trip, and speed/load control. And, in addition, consider safety shut down controls involving electrical faults, low oil pressure, or overspeed trip-out.
5. Discuss feedwater treatment and means or tests to determine proper levels of treatment for desired results.
6. Describe requirement to be met and how to conduct a hydrostatic test. Also discuss how to conduct an accumulation test and give the reason for requiring such a test.
7. Discuss the relationship of current, voltage, resistance ($IR=E$), power (EI) or ($I^2 R$), alternating current (AC), phases, direct current (DC), magnetic circuit and relationship to AC and DC current,

transformers, DC magnetic coils, generator excitation, how AC and DC current is generated, AC single phase and three phase motors, how rotation direction is controlled in single phase and three phase motors-AC, rotation direction obtained in DC motors, the use of collector rings, slip rings, commutators, induction, power factor, circuit breakers, time over-current relays, fuses, differential relays, low voltage relays, process of synchronism, meggers, etc.

8. Discuss the operation and troubleshooting a continuously operating 500 SCFM or larger air compressor to include loading control, temperature control, moisture removal, safety devices, air valves and determining faulty suction or exhaust valves. Include intake filters, aftercooler, intercooler, and receiver.
9. Discuss steam tables and the use of mollier charts to graphically illustrate the characteristics of steam and water. Describe what is involved at critical pressure and temperature latent heat, sensible heat, superheat, steam density, water density enthalpy of liquid, enthalpy of evaporation, enthalpy of superheated steam and changes brought by changes of pressure.
10. Discuss barometric condensers and surface condensers, the advantage of using a condenser on a steam turbine, and how the air is removed from a condenser.
11. Discuss the combustion control process giving the requirements for efficient combustion and how it is adapted to natural gas or fuel oil of all grades. Include an explanation of metered controls to obtain proper fuel-air ratio throughout boiler load range.
12. Define the following terms related to steam engineering:
 1. British thermal unit (BTU)
 2. Foot pound
 3. Latent heat
 4. Specific gravity
 5. Mechanical Equivalent
 6. Inertia
 7. Convection
 8. Matter
 9. Momentum
 10. Siphon
 11. Clearance pockets
 12. Intercooler
 13. Aftercooler
 14. Horse power of engine
 15. Axial flow
 16. Dynamic
 17. Static
 18. Alkaline
 19. Atomic weight
 20. Electron
 21. Ampere
 22. Volt
 23. Resistance
 24. Power
 25. Barometer
 26. Hydrometer
 27. Boyles Law

28. Capillary
 29. Caustic Soda
 30. Oscillation
 31. Center of Gravity
 32. Centrifugal Force
 33. Density
 34. Back Pressure
 35. Enthalpy
13. Discuss feedwater heater maintenance, operation and uses for deaerating and closed types.
 14. Discuss ingredients and qualities of lubricating oils to include how they are filtered, applied and stored.
 15. Discuss the various types of desuperheaters, location, and need.
 16. Knowledge of the City of Seattle "Steam Engineer and Boiler Fireman License Law." and the "Seattle Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code".
 17. Definitions
 18. License requirements and expiration
 19. Exemptions from license requirements
 20. Grades of licenses
 21. Maximum capacity allowable for grades and licenses
 22. Issuance of licenses, Method and requirements
 23. Special license
 24. Department of Construction and Land Use
 25. Licenses to be posted or carried
 26. Notice of place of employment
 27. Reporting of defective boilers
 28. Duties of Steam Engineers and Boiler Fireman
 29. Observation and inspection of boilers
 30. Posting of regulations
 31. Sketch a pressure reducing station showing all valves, gages, and safety devices. Discuss the relationship between the entering steam and the leaving steam.