

## Promotion of Skills Evaluation System

### Overview

### Promotion of Vocational Ability Evaluation System

Name of system	National Trade Skills Testing system	In-house trade skills test
Outline	The government tests workers' skills based on standards and officially certifies them.	The Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare authorizes in-house trade skills tests which are regarded necessary to promote skills development.
Skills and occupation, etc. covered	Common trade skills widely used in enterprises across the country, and occupation in which a large number of workers are engaged. At present skill tests are conducted for 136 occupations including machining and building carpentry by grade, namely Special Grade, Grade 1, Grade 2, and Grade 3 (for some skills, there is single grade).	Particular trade skills used in-house are subjected. As of March 1, 2011, 143 occupations (41 enterprises, etc.) including food processing and automobile parts management, etc. are authorized.
Type of certification	A person who passed the test is given a certificate either in the name of the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare (for Special Grade, Grade 1, and single grade) or the prefectural governors or the head of designated test organization (for Grades 2 and 3), and is given a title "Certified Skilled Worker".	Authorized in-house trade skill tests can be labeled as "authorized by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare".
Eligible applicants	Persons who have practical experiences in principle.	Workers employed by enterprises conducting in-house trade skills tests

Grade	Outline of skills test
Special Grade	The level of skills that managers or supervisors of each tested occupation must have, and the level of knowledge related to the skills
Grade 1	The level of skills that advanced skilled workers of each tested occupation must have, and the level of knowledge related to the skills
Grade 2	The level of skills that intermediate-level skilled workers of each tested occupation must have, and the level of knowledge related to the skills
Grade 3	The level of skills that elementary-level skilled workers of each tested occupation must have, and the level of knowledge related to the skills
Basic Grade 1	The skills required to carry out basic works of the tested occupation, and the knowledge related to the skills
Basic Grade 2	The essential skills required to carry out basic works of the tested occupation, and the knowledge related to the skills
Single Grade	The level of skills that advanced skilled workers of each tested occupation must have, and the level of knowledge related to the skills

### Detailed Data

### Results of National Trade Skills Tests

	Special Grade	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Basic Grade 1	Basic Grade 2	Single Grade	Total
Number of applicants (persons)	4,057	89,479	353,305	288,614	183	32,338	7,143	775,119
	68,812	2,869,890	5,864,395	1,418,878	2,837	380,853	273,521	10,879,186
Number of persons passed (persons)	832	34,320	104,413	119,346	160	30,313	4,092	293,476
	19,850	1,230,825	2,182,722	638,091	2,612	360,884	154,679	4,589,663
Percentage of persons passed the tests (%)	20.5	38.4	29.6	41.4	87.4	93.7	57.3	37.9
	28.8	42.9	37.2	45.0	92.1	94.8	56.6	42.2

Source: Human Resources Development Bureau, MHLW

Upper figures: FY2010, lower figures: cumulative total (from FY1959 to FY2010)