

A collage of NHLA documents, a ruler, and a saw blade on a wooden background. The documents include 'RULES', 'NATIONAL LUMBER ASSOCIATION', and 'GRADING RULES'. The ruler is marked in inches and centimeters. The saw blade is positioned diagonally across the center.

National Hardwood Lumber Association

Lumber Inspection School

**Venango Technology Center
Oil City, PA**

June 2 - Aug. 8, 2008

A Proud Tradition

The National Hardwood Lumber Association (NHLA) is a nonprofit trade association composed of more than 1600 member companies that produce, sell and use hardwood lumber, or provide services to the hardwood industry. The Association was founded in 1898 to establish a uniform system of Grading Rules for the measurement and inspection of hardwood lumber. The Association still functions as the administrator and keeper of these Rules. In 1948, the Association established a vocational training school in Memphis to teach the Rules and application of the NHLA grading system, and help fill an increasing demand for skilled lumber inspectors. Since that time, more than 6,700 students have graduated from the Inspection Program. The Summer 2008 Class will mark the first year the Inspection School will take place at Venango Technology Center in Oil City, PA.

The Inspection School is the only school of its kind in the world and students from throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, South America and Asia have attended. As testimony to the value of the Inspection School, many graduates are now in ownership or management positions in the industry and are sending their children and employees to complete the course.



National Hardwood Lumber Association Lumber Inspection School

What is a Lumber Inspector?

The high value of hardwood lumber dictates that boards are graded each time they are bought or sold within the hardwood industry and on their way from the sawmill to their final use in furniture, flooring or paneling. Hardwood lumber inspectors are responsible for determining the species, grade and volume of each piece of lumber. Inspectors are employed by sawmills, dry kiln operators, wholesale lumber distributors, manufacturing plants, exporters, importers and countless other types of firms that utilize hardwood lumber.

What Does It Take To Become a Lumber Inspector?

The minimum admission requirements for the Inspection School are a high school diploma, or equivalent, and the ability to speak, read and understand the English language. Additionally, students must have an understanding of basic math principles, including addition, subtraction, division, and multiplication of fractions. No prior experience in the hardwood lumber industry is required.

A Comprehensive Training Program

The Inspection School curriculum provides students with the technical knowledge of the Grading Rules and the practical skills and experience necessary to become a lumber inspector. Classes meet from 8 a.m.-4p.m. Monday through Friday and students are provided classroom instruction with extensive hands-on experience.

Inspection School instructors are skilled inspectors with extensive experience in the hardwood lumber industry. Class size is limited to 20 students to assure quality personal attention for each student. Upon successful completion of the 350 hour program with a minimum score of 75 percent, students receive a diploma.

Do Graduates Find Jobs?

Inspection School graduates are qualified for immediate employment as lumber inspectors. The Inspection School maintains a jobs listing board to assist current and former students in finding employment. Because of the reputation of the Inspection School, many companies require that their inspectors be graduates. While NHLA does not assume responsibility for job placement, it will assist the student in every way possible.

Tuition

Tuition for the School is \$2,750. Tuition for NHLA member companies is \$2,500. Course materials include a board rule, tally book, tally sheets, and Inspection Training Manual. Applicants must remit a \$100 non-refundable deposit with their application, which will be applied to the tuition fee. The balance of all fees are payable before the start of class. Students who withdraw or are dismissed from class will be refunded according to the following schedule:

Withdrawal By:	Refund Amount
Prior to class start date	Full tuition less \$100 deposit
Prior to end of 2nd week of class	70 percent of tuition
Prior to end of 4th week of class	20 percent of tuition

Housing

Apartments are available at the Venango Campus of Clarion University in Oil City, PA. Each apartment is furnished and includes a fully appliance kitchen, basic cable, telephone, high speed internet, air conditioning, washer and dryer.

For more information and to arrange for housing please contact Emily Aubele at 814-676-6591, ext. 1269.

Application for Admission

Office use only

National Hardwood Lumber Association Lumber Inspection School

Class # _____

Student s# _____

at Venango Technology Center In Oil City, PA • June 2 - Aug. 8, 2008

Please return completed application to Keystone Community Education Council, 255 Elm Street, Suite 1, Oil City, PA 16301

Phone: (814) 677-4427

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

First (Given) Middle Family (Surname)

What name do you prefer to be called? _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Country of Birth: _____ Country of Citizenship: _____ Social Security #: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Male Female Married Single Age: _____ Military Veteran Yes No

Mark highest level of education: Grade School _____ High School: 9 10 11 12 College: 1 2 3 4 5+

High school diploma or equivalent is required.

Physical Disabilities/Limitations: _____

Activities/Hobbies: _____

Are you currently employed? Yes No

If yes, please list company name and address along with a contact person and phone number.

Previous industry experience: _____

Are you able to read, write and speak English? Yes No

In order to benefit from instruction, students must be able to converse fluently in English.

What is your primary language? _____

I agree to be bound by the rules and regulations established for the orderly conduct of the Inspection School and to ensure the rights and dignity of fellow students. I understand that no credit towards completion of the course will be awarded for previous training. I have read, understand and agree to be governed by the Inspection School's policy concerning tuition refund in the event of failure to start or complete the course. I understand that this application will become part of my permanent record and may be used as a source of information for employment references. No person shall be denied enrollment on the basis of gender, religion, beliefs, national origin, ethnic group or disabling condition.

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____

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Payment Method

Credit Card #: _____

Name on Card: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



Do Not Write in This Space



National Hardwood Lumber Association Lumber Inspection School

Keystone Community Education Council
255 Elm Street, Suite 1
Oil City, PA 16301