

# American Welding Society (AWS) SENSE Entry Level

**Aligned Programs of Study:** Welding

## Description

Schools Excelling through National Skills Education (SENSE) are grounded using a set of specifications and guidelines meant to assist schools in training welders. Based on a survey of the welding industry, the SENSE guidelines are divided into two levels of knowledge and skills required in the welding workplace. The two levels are Entry (Level I) and Advanced (Level II). The Advanced certification is for employees considered to possess a prerequisite amount of knowledge, attitude, skills, and habits required to perform tasks under general supervision, and complex tasks involving the use of theoretical knowledge and motor skills under close supervision.

SENSE is not a curriculum and does not provide instructional materials, daily plans, or student handouts. SENSE includes the required knowledge-based assessments, workmanship sample procedures, and Performance Qualification Tests required to earn a SENSE credential. Students who complete a SENSE-compliant training program are eligible to receive an AWS SENSE and wallet card.

## Certification Information

Test Owner

American Welding Society (AWS)

8669 NW 36 Street, #130

Miami, FL 33166

Phone: (305) 443-9353 ext. 455

Email: [SENSE@aws.org](mailto:SENSE@aws.org)

## Registration Procedures

The process of registering as a SENSE school is simple. To register a [SENSE Training Organization](#) (TO), the school must:

1. Complete the [SENSE Registration Form](#)
2. Sign the [Letter of Commitment](#)
3. Send a check or purchase order covering the registration fee to the AWS Education Department.

The SENSE program requires the payment of a **one-time fee** to be accompanied with the registration packet. The SENSE registration fee varies depending on the level of implementation as listed below:

- **Level I - \$500**
- **Levels 1 & 2 - \$600**

This one-time fee covers:

- Registration as a SENSE Training Organization.
- SENSE Program standards, guidelines, and resource materials.
- A library of eight AWS reference books/ standards for a classroom library.
- Use of the AWS SENSE Logo.
- Complimentary use of the AWS SENSE Online System.
- As part of the SENSE registration process, AWS includes a complimentary one-year membership as an AWS Educational Institution Member (EIM).

Once a student passes one or both of the certifications, a **\$15.00 graduation fee** is required. This fee will allow them to receive a wall certificate, wallet card, and be entered into the AWS Welder Database.

### Preparing to offer the certification

Exam Details

AWS SENSE Level 1 Entry Welder Certification

- Module 1 – Occupational Orientation
- Module 2 – Safety and Health of Welders
- Module 3 – Drawing and Welding Symbol Interpretation
- Module 4 – Shielded Medical Arc Welding (SMAW).
- Module 5 – Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW, GMAW-S)
- Module 6 – Flux Cored Arc Welding (FCAW-G/GM, FCAW-S)
- Module 7 – Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW)
- Module 8 – Thermal Cutting Processes
  - Unit 1: Manual Oxyfuel Gas Cutting (OFC)
  - Unit 2: Mechanized Oxyfuel Gas Cutting (OFC)
  - Unit 3: Manual Plasma Arc Cutting—PAC
  - Unit 4: Manual Air Carbon Arc Cutting (CAC-A)
- Module 9 – Welding Inspection and Testing

To gain a SENSE certificate a student must complete all required module written examinations and all practical assessments. These exams have a written (on-line) component and a Visual Inspection section.

Materials and Resources:

There are a variety of materials and resources found on the AWS website here: <https://www.senseonline.org/>

### Vendors with Data Sharing MOU with TDOE

| Vendor  | Contact Information                                     |
|---|---|
| <a href="https://www.aws.org/">American Welding Society</a> | <a href="https://www.aws.org/">https://www.aws.org/</a> |