

AWS Instructors Institute

Background

The AWS Instructors Institute is being held to give welding instructors an opportunity to strengthen their teaching skills, learn more about AWS programs, and experience hands-on learning of new teaching techniques. Meeting together with other instructors, the participants will be able to communicate and share their teaching experiences in a setting that is devoted to their specific concerns.

Who will attend?

One instructor is selected from each AWS District to attend this event. The Instructor representatives will be announced before or at the respective District Conference, depending on the date of the Conference. Sections wishing to nominate an instructor should provide the nomination to their District Director, before your District Conference, with justification why the instructors should be selected to attend. Current and former members of the AWS Board of Directors may not be selected as the Instructor representative. Attendance will be limited to the 22 Instructor representatives (one from each District) as space in the AWS welding laboratory is limited.

When will the Institute occur?

The AWS Instructors Institute is held in either July or August, from Tuesday evening to Saturday afternoon. Holding this event during the summer allows for instructors to attend the Institute during their summer break. A separate AWS event, the AWS Leadership Symposium, is also held each summer in Miami. Districts may nominate the same individual to attend both events. Contact Cassie Burrell (cburrell@aws.org) or Paola Chacon-Celis (Pcelis@aws.org) at AWS Headquarters for more information on the Leadership Symposium and Instructors Institute, respectively.

Where will the Institute be held?

The Instructors Institute will be held at AWS Headquarters in Miami, Florida. Welding instruction will be held in the Glenn J. Gibson Welding Laboratory, where we will be able to provide demonstrations of new welding equipment as well as allow participants to get hands-on welding instruction and practice. The participants will also get a chance to meet the AWS staff and to network with their peers.

Who will conduct the Institute? What can I expect to learn?

A number of experienced welding instructors will be on hand to conduct various aspects of the Institute. Each Instructor has a special area of expertise from which you will benefit. Expect to hear the latest information about AWS Education programs, including the SENSE program, visual inspection techniques for instructors, and strategies for supporting your welding programs. We will also have Dr. Ron Gilbert facilitate sessions on how to approach the challenges of being a welding instructor.

How will the Institute be funded?

AWS will reimburse travel and lodging expenses for each of the 22 District Instructor representatives attending the event. Specific information will be forwarded to the Instructor representatives following their selection at the District Conferences.