



ita

YOUR TICKET TO A CAREER YOU LOVE.

WHAT IS A TRADE?

Skilled tradespeople are everywhere. You see the evidence every day whether you realize it or not - when you walk into a building, drive down the road, go to a restaurant, or simply turn on a light. When people think of skilled trades, there's a few that immediately come to mind - Plumber, Carpenter, Electrician - but the trades are much more extensive with over 100 to choose from in BC. Everything from Crane Operators to Hairstylists, Locksmiths to Arborists and much more - the opportunities are endless.

An apprenticeship in the trades lets you put your brain and body to work doing something you love. It's a chance to sharpen your skills, get better at your craft every day and to turn ideas in your head into things you can see, smell, taste and touch. No two trades are exactly alike: each one requires a special set of skills and offers different opportunities. ITA can help you find your fit by guiding you to figure out what gets your brain fired up, makes your blood pump faster and puts a smile on your face.

WHAT IS A TRADE APPRENTICESHIP?

A trade apprenticeship is how you gain the knowledge and skills you need for a career in your trade. As an apprentice, you will spend approximately three to ten weeks per year in a classroom or shop learning from an instructor. The rest of the year, you'll earn while you learn, working on a job site alongside experienced tradespeople and getting paid to do it.

Most apprenticeships take about four years to complete. Yours might be a bit longer or shorter, depending on your trade and how much you work. At the end of your apprenticeship, you'll earn a trade certification or "ticket" from ITA that is either a provincial Certificate of Qualification (CofQ) or a CofQ with Red Seal endorsement that allows you to work anywhere in Canada.

TYPICAL TRADE APPRENTICESHIP	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	CERTIFICATION EXAM	Certificate of Qualification "Ticket" Work anywhere in BC (and maybe other provinces too, depending on the trade) OR Red Seal Work anywhere in Canada (if your trade is one of 49 Red Seal trades)
20% CLASSROOM TRAINING In a classroom or shop at a university, college or private institution	Level 1 (6-8 weeks)	Level 2 (6-8 weeks)	Level 3 (6-8 weeks)	Level 4 (6-8 weeks)		
80% PRACTICAL TRAINING On a job site, working alongside experienced tradespeople in your field	1,500 TO 1,680 HOURS (40-44 weeks)					

See full list of trades →



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HOW DO YOU GET STARTED?

No matter how young or old you are or how much or little you know about the trades, there is a path for you. The first step is to determine what trade you want to pursue. With over 100 trade occupations to choose from, it can be overwhelming but ITA has youth programs that allow you to explore the trades while you're still in high school

(itabc.ca/youth/programs) and many training providers offer foundation programs (itabc.ca/get-job-ready/foundation-programs) to test out a trade before you fully commit. Or you may want to go straight into an apprenticeship pathway with an employer sponsor (itabc.ca/overview/apply-apprenticeship).

Find the right trade for you:

Aircraft Maintenance Technician

Aircraft Structural Technician

Appliance Service Technician

Arboriculturist (Urban Forestry)

Architectural Sheet Metal Worker

Asphalt Paving/Laydown Technician

Automotive Glass Technician

Automotive Painter

Automotive Refinishing Prep Technician

Automotive Service Technician

Baker

Boilermaker (Construction Boilermaker)

Boom Truck Operator - Stiff Boom Unlimited

Tonnage

Boom Truck Operator: Folding Boom Unlimited

Tonnage

Bricklayer (Mason)

Cabinet Maker (Joiner)

Carpenter

Climbing Arborist

Concrete Finisher (Cement Mason)

Cook (Professional Cook 3)

Cremationist

Dairy Production Technician 1

Dairy Production Technician 2

Diesel Engine Mechanic

Domestic/Commercial Gasfitter (Class B)

Drywall Finisher

Electric Motor Systems Technician

(Winder Electrician)

Electrician, Construction

Electrician, Industrial

Embalmer

Embalmer and Funeral Director

Field Arborist

Floor Covering Installer

Funeral Director

Gasfitter

Geothermal Technician

Glazier

Hairstylist (Cosmetologist)

Hardwood Floorlayer

Heating Technician

Heavy Duty Equipment Technician (Mechanic)

Heavy Equipment Operator

Horticulture Technician Foundation

Horticulturist, Landscape

Horticulturist, Production

Inboard/Outboard Mechanic

Industrial Mechanic (Millwright)

Instrumentation and Control Technician

(Industrial Instrument Mechanic)

Insulator (Heat and Frost Insulator)

Ironworker - Reinforcing

Ironworker Generalist (Ironworker)

Lather (Wall and Ceiling Installer)

Locksmith

Logistics and Distribution Person

Lumber Manufacturing Industry - Benchperson,

Circular Sawfiler or Sawfitter

Machinist

Marine Foundation

Marine Service Technician

Meatcutter

Metal Fabricator (Fitter)

Mobile Crane Operator Hydraulic 80 Tonnes

and Under

Mobile Crane Operator Hydraulic Unlimited

Tonnage

Mobile Crane Operator Lattice Boom

Friction Crane

Mobile Crane Operator Lattice Boom

Hydraulic Crane

Motor Vehicle Body Repairer

Motorcycle Mechanic

(Motorcycle and Power Equipment Technician)

Painter and Decorator

Parks and Public Works Operations Worker

Partsperson

Petroleum Equipment Installer

Petroleum Equipment Service Technician

Piledriver and Bridgeworker

Plumber

Power Line Technician

Recreation Vehicle Service Technician

Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic

(Refrigeration Mechanic)

Residential Building Maintenance Worker

Residential Framing Technician

Residential Steep Roofer

Rig Technician

Road Builder and Heavy Construction Foundation

Roofer

Security Systems Technician

Sheet Metal Worker

Shipyards Labourer

Sprinkler System Installer

Steamfitter/Pipefitter

Tilesetter

Tool and Die Maker

Tower Crane Operator

Transport Trailer Technician

(Commercial Trailer Mechanic)

Truck and Transport Mechanic

Utility Arborist

Water Well Driller

Welder

■ Red Seal

The Red Seal Program is the Canadian standard of excellence for skilled trades. The program sets common standards to assess the skills of tradespersons across Canada ultimately allowing tradespeople with this qualification to work anywhere in Canada.

About the Industry Training Authority

ITA works with employers, employees, industry, labour, training providers and government to issue credentials, manage apprenticeships, set program standards, and increase opportunities in the trades in BC.

The Industry Training Authority and BC Government are committed to ensuring we have the right number of workers, with the right skills, in the right place, at the right time; however, to succeed we need to work together to reawaken people's interest in the trades, particularly amongst youth, and support them through apprenticeship to a successful career in the trades.



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