

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How do you earn a Journeyman certificate?

Apprentices must successfully complete both components, 1) work based training reported by the employer and 2) technical education reported by the College to the Industry Training Authority. Then the apprentice will complete a final examination. Upon successful completion the apprentice will be issued a "Certificate of Qualification" also known as the "Journeyman Certificate". This process can vary by trade depending on the requirements for an individual trade. For more information on the requirements for a specific trade check out [www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca).

### What is the typical structure of an apprenticeship?

Most apprenticeships, although not all follow the structure below including work based training hours on the job, reported to the Industry training authority by the employer and annual in school technical training reported by the training provider, typically a College.

Year 1	Work based Training 10 months	Technical Training 8 weeks
Year 2	Work based Training 10 months	Technical Training 8 weeks
Year 3	Work based Training 10 months	Technical Training 8 weeks
Year 4	Work based Training 10 months	Technical Training 8 weeks. Write final exam

### What is the relationship between an apprentice and the employer?

Apprentices and their employers are required to register their apprenticeship or industry training agreements (sometime referred to as an "indentureship") and to document the work-based training completed. The work-based training component of an apprenticeship represents an important commitment between the apprentice and the employer. It is recommended that employers have facilities and work opportunities that expose apprentices to all aspects of a trade, and that they ensure a well-qualified individual oversee an apprentice's work and training.

### What is the Technical Training component of an apprenticeship?

The technical training component of an apprenticeship typically involves spending four to ten weeks per year in a classroom and shop setting. During each level of training, apprentices study specific subject areas. Examinations typically take place as each level of technical training is completed. Apprentices are responsible for selecting and registering for their technical training, and working with their employers to schedule it at appropriate times.

### What are Foundation Programs?

The South Island Partnership offers the following Industry Training **Foundation Programs** that range in length from 4 months to 10 months fulltime training at the Camosun College Campus:

Automotive Mechanical Repair	6 month program
Carpentry	6 month program
Culinary Arts	4 month program
Construction Electrician	6 month program
Fine Furniture	10 month program
Heavy Duty / Commercial Transport Mechanic	10 month program
Horticulture	10 month program
Plumbing and Piping Trades	6 month program
Sheet metal and Aircraft Structures Worker	6 month program
Welder Level C	7 month program

## **What are the benefits of the Secondary School Apprenticeship program for students?**

Secondary students registered as apprentices while completing high school graduation requirements earn high school graduation credits for hours worked. 120 hours of paid work experience earns secondary school apprentices four credits towards graduation. Secondary school apprentices can earn up to 16 credits (for 480 hours of work experience) towards graduation. Upon graduation, SSA students that have 16 SSA credits and have maintained a C+ average in their grade 12 courses, receive \$1000 through the SSA scholarship program.

## **What is the role of the Secondary School in the SSA program?**

Secondary School Staff promote the SSA program and seek out potential SSA students. Sometimes SSA students are hidden and do not know about the program. Program promotion and student counseling are key parts of the secondary schools' role. Secondary school staff are also required to assist the student and often the employer in completing all the required registration and tracking forms. For details on required forms, see the Appendix section of this manual. Beyond supporting the registration process secondary schools also monitor students during their on the job training, ensure students where appropriate are linked to the ACE IT program (see the how to section for details), report secondary school apprenticeship work hours, ensure SSA marks are reported to the ministry of education, and assist students in completing the SSA scholarship application form.

## **What are the trades available for apprenticeship?**

There is an extensive list of apprenticable trades that offer provincial and national certification. The best place to find a comprehensive list of these trades is to visit the Industry Training Authority website at <http://itabc.ca> or, for a specific listing of programs: <http://itabc.ca/TrainingPrograms.php>

## **What happens if a student taking trades training changes their mind and wants to do something else?**

Trades students can change their mind at almost any time. If they get to level two and decide to take a break for a while and travel Europe for seven months, they can pick up work-based training where they left off upon return. However, students would not be able to abandon a specific technical training session mid-way through and resume at a later point. Many people take a break from employment in the trades for a period of time and come back to it later. Some others use their trade training background as a steppingstone into owning their own business or launching into other career or education opportunities. A trades certificate can be a life career or another tool in the toolbox of life. The skills developed can be used throughout your life. Working in the trades also means you start working at rate that is much better than the minimum wage, which is very helpful if you are saving for your own home, a vacation, or another field of education.

## **How intense is the apprenticeship technical training in terms of time commitment and homework?**

Most programs start at 8:30 a.m. and run until 4:00 p.m. expect a **minimum of one to three hours** homework per night as well as weekend homework! There will be not time available for part-time work while attending your technical training session. This is a program designed for working adults who have adult responsibilities (families and financial commitments) and are keen to return to fulltime employment. Apprenticeship technical training is very focused and intensive program. Students need to be prepared for this level of commitment and rigors of the program in terms of study habits and math skills.