

**Issued: August 23, 2022**

**Program: Automotive Service Technician (AST)**

- To:** ITA Training Providers  
Articulation Chair  
System Liaison Person  
Youth Train in Trades School Districts
- Subject:** **Automotive Service Technician – Changes to Credentialing Model & Standardized Level Exams (SLEs) Implementation**
- OPSN No.:** **OPSN 2022 019**
- Effective Date:** January 1, 2023
- Summary of Change:** Please be advised that a new Program Profile and Program Outline have been posted to the Industry Training Authority (ITA) [website](#).
- Details:** Effective **January 1, 2023**, the following changes will be made to the Automotive Service Technician program in BC:
- The progressive credentialing model will be replaced with a single credentialing model:
    - Certificate of Qualification removed for levels 1, 2, and 3.
    - Certificate of Apprenticeship removed for levels 1, 2, and 3.
    - Conversion of the Certificate of Qualification (CofQ) exams for each level into Standardized Level Exams (SLEs) to be blended at a ratio of 80% in-school and 20% SLE.
  - SLEs will be implemented for classes starting after **January 1, 2023**.
    - Apprentice technical training for levels 1 through 4 of Automotive Service Technician that begin after **January 1, 2023**, will be required to sit the ITA SLE for each of the levels. The exam will contribute 20% to an apprentice's final mark.
    - An Exam Weighting Chart will be available for each level of the Automotive Service Technician SLEs on ITA's [website](#). The charts show the approximate percentage of weighting per General Area of Competency (GAC).

- Levels 1, 2, and 3 will be challengeable.
- To prepare for the transition, the requirement to write the level CofQ under the old program will be waived for all trade workers from the start of the program.
- Trade workers who have previously been enrolled **or** are currently enrolled in the Progressive Credential AST program will continue to have the option to obtain a CofQ at each level for a period of three years ending **December 31, 2025**.

Further details regarding transition for apprentices currently in the progressive credential program to follow.

**Rationale:**

In 2021, ITA conducted external engagements regarding the Automotive Service Technician program. The results of the engagement showed a preference for the single credential model.

The change to the single credentialing model is also in line with the upcoming transition to Skilled Trade Certification (STC). Trade workers in STC-designated trades must either be a registered apprentice or journeyperson. Automotive Service Technician is one of the first 10 trades selected for Skilled Trades Certification.

**General Information**

**Scheduling Exams:** Exams are to be requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure. For more information, please see <https://www.itabc.ca/training-provider-resources>. Training providers are required to complete an ITA Exam Request Form six to eight weeks prior to the scheduled exam date. Training providers are encouraged to identify courses using the Session ID, to aid in confirmation of exam type. ITA will provide an invigilator for these exams.

**Calculating and Submitting Final Marks for Blended Exams:**

**Process**

- ITA administers the exam, records the mark in Direct Access (DA), and reports it to the training provider.
- The training provider blends the in-school (80%) and SLE (20%) marks to produce a final mark for the level (or as indicated in the Assessment Guidelines).
- The training provider reports the final, blended mark to ITA and records it in DA.
- DA reports the final, blended mark to the apprentice as a single percentage score.
  - When the final mark is entered into DA, the system performs a reverse calculation using the SLE mark to determine the in-school mark.
  - All three marks are stored in the apprentice’s record, but only the final blended mark is reported on the ITA transcript.
  - A blended mark of 70% or greater is required to pass the level.



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