

POLICY: DESIGNATION OF TRAINING PROVIDERS

This policy defines the criteria by which the Industry Training Authority will approve training providers other than public post-secondary institutions as designated trainers to deliver programs leading to credit toward ITA Credentials. The designation process is designed to ensure high standards with respect to facilities, tools and equipment, instructor qualifications, occupational standards and curriculum, assessment processes, student supports, safety requirements and general operations.

1.0 Scope

- This policy does not apply to BC's public post-secondary institutions who deliver programs leading to credit toward ITA Credentials and have signed attestations that all aspects of program delivery adhere to ITA quality assurance standards
- This policy does **not** address funding of program delivery. ITA designation does not create an obligation or imply a current or future funding commitment.

2.0 Definition of Designation

Training provider designation constitutes ITA approval to deliver specific programs by level and by campus / facility. When a training provider is designated as a trainer by the ITA to deliver a specific program or level(s) of a program, this means that the provider has met basic quality standards that apply to all providers in addition to quality standards specific to the applicable program(s) / level(s). Program-specific standards are recommended by the relevant industry, and approved by the ITA.

When a training provider is designated to deliver a program or program level(s) by the ITA, successful completers receive credit toward an ITA Credential.

3.0 Restriction on Training Provider Claims in the Absence of ITA Designation

In the absence of designation by the ITA, no claim is to be made by a training provider other than an approved public post-secondary institution that successful completion of a particular program will lead to credit toward an ITA Industry Training Program or Credential.

4.0 Framework for Trainer Designation

ITA designation for the delivery of a specific industry training program or level requires a training provider to satisfy three main criteria:

- Compliance with applicable BC legislation and regulations
- Demonstration of satisfactory performance by delivery of at least one successful intake prior to completion of the designation review process
- Designation by the ITA Standards Review Committee

5.0 Maintaining ITA Designation

To maintain designation, training providers must:

- continue to meet ITA training delivery standards;
- upon request provide copies of student evaluations; and
- undergo re-evaluation against current ITA training provider delivery and program-specific standards every five years or sooner if deemed necessary by ITA.

The ITA Standards Review Committee will review designation status where:

- The program / level has not been delivered for a period exceeding 18 months
- Outcomes (including, but not limited to enrollment, completion, pass rate, marks) fall significantly below the provincial norm for the particular program / level
- Changes in staffing, facilities or program delivery are not communicated to ITA, or having been communicated to ITA fail to continue to meet program standards

Based on results of the review, ITA may suspend or cancel or renew designation with or without conditions.

6.0 Program Specific Quality Standards

ITA will work with Industry to develop program-specific quality standards that will be used in evaluating training providers for potential designation by the ITA. These standards will be approved by the ITA, and become an integral part of the standards documentation associated with each *Accredited, Recognized, and Foundation Industry Training Program*.

The following basic standards apply in all cases in addition to any program-specific quality standards that are developed by industry and approved by the ITA:

- Training content in accordance with ITA Program Outline
- Qualified instructors (for example - certified journey person or equivalent with demonstrated instruction experience)
- Appropriate equipment and facilities
- Adequate student supports
- Compliance with Occupational Health and Safety requirements.

6.1 Industry Representatives Defined

Where they exist, Industry Training Organizations (ITOs) with lead responsibility for agreed-upon training programs are deemed to represent industry with respect to those programs and will recommend quality standards for training provision and provide subject matter experts to conduct evaluations of training providers against these standards.

Where no formal ITO exists, the ITA will use representatives from the relevant industry/industries (which could include industry associations) on an ad-hoc basis to assist with determining appropriate quality standards for evaluating training providers.

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