

Issued: October 20, 2021
Trade: Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic (RACM)

To ITA Training Providers
Articulation Chair
System Liaison Person
School Districts ITA Training Providers

Subject Transition to Harmonized Program: Year 3 Update

From ITA Program Standards

Effective Date December 1, 2021

Summary After December 1, 2021, please implement Harmonized Level 4 (HL4) with dual streaming of Current Level 4 (CL4). Continue to offer one week of gap training with Harmonized Level 3 (HL3) for apprentices transitioning from Current Level 2 (CL2). See *Transition Details* below for more details.

Background On February 20, 2019, ITA Program Standards issued [OPSN 2019-001](#), which detailed the changes to the RACM program as a result of the Harmonization Initiative and announced the implementation of a revised Program Outline and Program Profile, effective December 1, 2019. Further to this, on April 25, 2019, ITA issued a [Program Update](#) announcing the [Transition Plan](#), summarized in the graphics below:

Implementation Timelines	
Level 1/Foundation/Youth	December 1, 2019
Level 2	December 1, 2019
Level 3	December 1, 2020
Level 4	December 1, 2021

Year 0 18/19	CL1	CL2	CL3	CL4
Year 1 19/20	HL1	HL2	CL3	CL4
Year 2 20/21	HL1	HL2	HL3 Gap training 30 hours	CL4
Year 3 21/22	HL1	HL2	HL3 Gap training 30 hours	HL4 CL4
Year 4 22/23	HL1	HL2	HL3	HL4

**Transition
Details**

As we approach Year 3 of transition and the implementation of **HL4**, ITA would like to revisit some key points:

Dual Streaming of CL4 and HL4

Because the gap (i.e., content that an apprentice would be missing) for apprentices moving from CL3 to HL4 is large, it was determined that it will be important to allow apprentices extra opportunity to take CL4 and avoid transitioning to HL4. Therefore, we are asking training providers to **dual stream CL4 and HL4**. This may be achieved by

- Offering CL4 and HL4 during the same training periods
- Offering CL4 and HL4 in alternating training periods
- Working with other training providers in the same region to offer CL4 at one location and HL4 at another location

Please indicate whether courses being offered are Harmonized Level 4 or Current Level 4 and ensure apprentices are registering in the correct program.

- Apprentices **who have completed CL3 should only take CL4, not HL4**. Please **do not** allow CL3 apprentices to register in HL4 as this may result in large gaps in their training.
- Apprentices **who have completed HL3 should only take HL4, not CL4**. Please **do not** allow HL3 apprentices to register in CL4 as this may result in large gaps in their training.
- When requesting exams, please indicate clearly whether the class has completed CL4 or HL4.

**For more
information
contact**

Program Standards
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cc: ITA Staff