

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNICIAN

Occupation Description

“Automotive Service Technicians” possess the full range of knowledge and abilities required to perform preventative maintenance, diagnose problems and repair vehicle systems including engines, vehicle management, hybrids, steering, braking, tires, wheels, drivetrains, suspension, electrical, electronics, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), restraints, trim and accessories of automotive vehicles and light trucks with a gross vehicle weight less than 5,500 kg.

Automotive Service Technicians may be employed by automotive repair shops, dealerships, automotive specialty repair shops, large organizations that may own a fleet of vehicles and motor vehicle body repair companies.

For detailed information on the scope of knowledge and skills taught and assessed in this program refer to the Program Outline, available on the ITA website.

Pathways to Certification

In BC, Automotive Service Technician (AST) is a single program offering two certification pathways for apprentices:

- **A traditional apprenticeship model** where an individual completes the four levels of training and receives a final Certificate of Qualification as an Automotive Service Technician with an Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement
- **A progressive credential model** where an individual receives Certificates of Qualification at each level (as well as a final Certificate of Qualification with an Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement) by submitting the required work-based training hours and Recommendation for Certification at each level. Please see the section below, **Work-Based Training Hours and Recommendations for Certification**, for important details.

Apprenticeship programs are for individuals who have an employer to sponsor them. Challenge programs are for individuals who have extensive experience working in the occupation and wish to challenge the certification.

Youth can begin an apprenticeship in high school through the Youth Train in Trades or Youth Work in Trades programs. The Youth Work in Trades program is available for any trade if an employer is willing to sponsor the student. Trades offered through the Youth Train in Trades vary by region; contact your local school district to find out which technical training programs are being offered through the Youth Train in Trades program in your region.

Foundation programs, where available, provide adults and youth who do not have work experience or employer sponsorship with an opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills needed to enter the occupation. Individuals who wish to enroll in a Foundation program must register directly with the training provider.

Work-Based Training Hours and Recommendations for Certification

If you wish to receive progressive Certificates of Qualification, have your Sponsor sign and return a Recommendation for Certification (RFC) form when you complete the requirements for each level. You should report hours regularly to ITA so that a record is kept of the hours required to trigger the RFC to be sent to your employer. On receipt of a signed RFC from your employer a certificate will be issued to you. Should you choose **not** to report hours regularly then an RFC will not be issued and certification will only be issued for the appropriate level relevant to the hours reported at that time. For example, should you choose to report hours for the first time when you reach 3,000 hours, you will only be able to claim certification for AST 2 and not AST 1, as ITA will have no record of when the completion requirements for



AST 1 were achieved. The specific requirements for reporting hours and RFCs are outlined in the following chart.

Outcome	Reporting Hours and Submitting RFCs
AST 1 Certificate of Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report 1,590 Work-Based Training (WBT) hours • Have your Sponsor sign and return a Recommendation for Certification form for Automotive Service Technician 1 <p>Note: <u>Do not report more than 3,179 hours</u> at this level if you wish to receive AST 1 certification.</p>
AST 2 Certificate of Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report 1,590 Work-Based Training hours (Total 3,180 Work-based Training hours required) • Have your Sponsor sign and return a Recommendation for Certification form for Automotive Service Technician 2 <p>Note: <u>Do not report more than 4,769 hours</u> at this level if you wish to receive AST 2 certification.</p>
AST 3 Certificate of Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report 1,590 Work-Based Training hours (Total 4,770 Work-based Training hours required) • Have your Sponsor sign and return a Recommendation for Certification form for Automotive Service Technician 3 • Note: <u>Do not report more than 6,359 hours</u> at this level if you wish to receive AST 3 certification.
AST certification with Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report a total of 6,360 Work-Based Training (WBT) hours • Have your Sponsor sign and return a Recommendation for Certification form for Automotive Service Technician • Note: We encourage you and your sponsor to report work-based training hours to ITA every three (3) to six (6) months.

Recommended Education

The following education is recommended for apprentices entering this occupation. These are not prerequisites, but rather a desired level of skill or knowledge that will contribute to success in the industry.

- Grade 12 or equivalent including English 12, Apprenticeship & Workplace Math, or Trade Mathematics 11 and Applied Physics, or Science and Technology 11

ITA Registration

Individuals who wish to begin an apprenticeship in the Automotive Service Technician trade must register with ITA along with their sponsor. There is one single point of registration for the program. Application forms are available from the ITA website. Online registration is also available through the ITA website.

Those who wish to challenge the Automotive Service Technician 1, 2, 3 or 4 certification must complete the Automotive Service Technician 1, 2, 3 or 4 Challenge Application and submit it to ITA. Challenge



INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE
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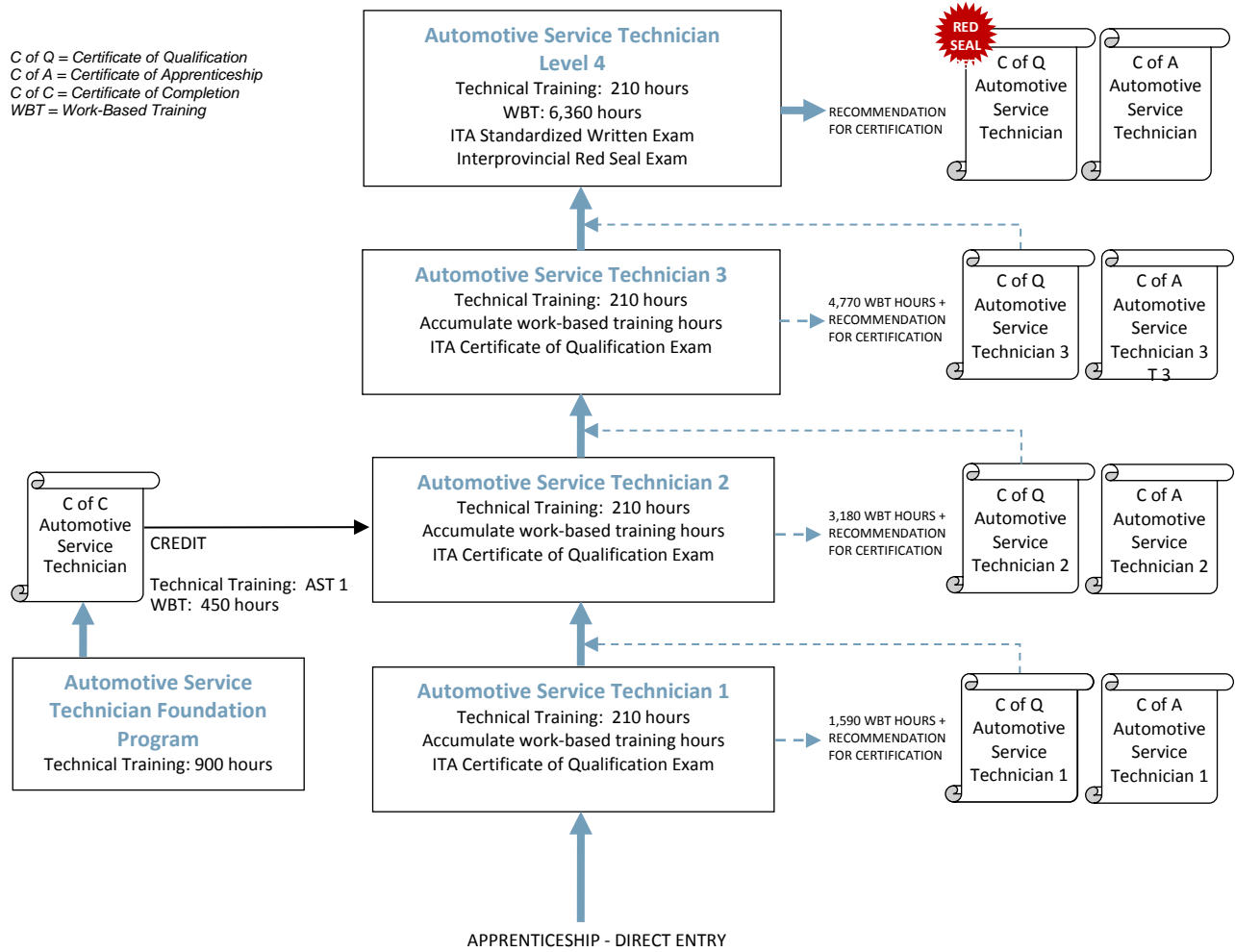


applications are assessed for proof of workplace hours and scope of experience prior to acceptance of the individual into the Challenge pathway.



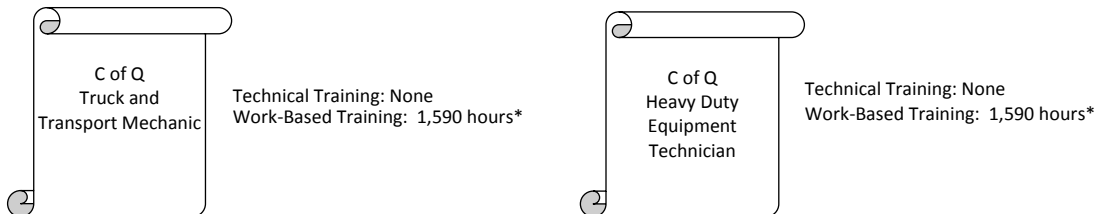
Apprenticeship Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Automotive Service Technician apprenticeship pathways.



CROSS-PROGRAM CREDITS

Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are entitled to receive partial credit toward the completion requirements of these programs:



*Individuals who are holders of both certificates will only be awarded credit for 1,590 WBT hours total



Apprenticeship Program Standards

Credentials Awarded

- Automotive Service Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement and Certificate of Apprenticeship*
- Automotive Service Technician 3 – Certificate of Qualification and Certificate of Apprenticeship*
- Automotive Service Technician 2 – Certificate of Qualification and Certificate of Apprenticeship*
- Automotive Service Technician 1 – Certificate of Qualification and Certificate of Apprenticeship*

*Each credential is awarded if a signed Recommendation for Certification is received for that level from your Sponsor. If you wish to receive certification for AST 1, 2 or 3, you must successfully complete the requirements for that level and have your Sponsor submit a Recommendation for Certification for that level.

ITA Registration Prerequisites

- Agreement signed by the employer to sponsor the apprentice

Completion Requirements

Individuals may request Certification as an Automotive Service Technician 1, 2, 3 or AST upon successful completion of the requirements for each level described below.

Note: Apprentices must write and pass (achieve minimum 70%) the Automotive Service Technician Certificate of Qualification exam for each level before they will be permitted to write the next progressive Certificate of Qualification exam. For example, you must pass the AST 1 exam to be eligible to write AST 2.

	Requirement and Minimum Level of Achievement	Credential Awarded
AST 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AST 1 Technical Training (210 hours): Minimum 70% ▪ Work-based Training: 1,590 hours ▪ AST 1 Certificate of Qualification Exam: Minimum 70% ▪ Recommendation for Certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Automotive Service Technician 1 – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Automotive Service Technician 1 – Certificate of Apprenticeship
AST 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pass AST 1 Technical Training and AST 1 Certificate of Qualification Exam ▪ AST 2 Technical Training (210 hours): Minimum 70% ▪ Work-based Training: 3,180 hours ▪ AST 2 Certificate of Qualification Exam: Minimum 70% ▪ Recommendation for Certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Automotive Service Technician 2 – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Automotive Service Technician 2 – Certificate of Apprenticeship



Apprenticeship Program Standards

AST 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pass AST 1 and AST 2 Technical Training and AST 1 and AST 2 Certificate of Qualification Exams ▪ AST 3 Technical Training (210 hours): Minimum 70% ▪ Work-based Training: 4,770 hours AST 3 Certificate of Qualification Exam: Minimum 70% ▪ Recommendation for Certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Automotive Service Technician 3 – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Automotive Service Technician 3 – Certificate of Apprenticeship
AST (Level 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pass AST 1, 2 and 3 Technical Training and AST 1, 2 and 3 Certificate of Qualification Exam ▪ AST Level 4 Technical Training (210 hours) with ITA Standardized Written Exam: Minimum 70% ▪ Work-based Training: 6,360 hours ▪ Interprovincial Red Seal Exam: Minimum 70% ▪ Recommendation for Certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Automotive Service Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement ▪ Automotive Service Technician – Certificate of Apprenticeship
Program Duration	<p>Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 4 years to complete.</p> <p>The technical training requirement is typically met through block-release training (full-time, at school) delivered by an ITA-approved training provider. It can also be met through approved alternative training models (e.g., distance education, online, part-time) and/or level challenge where these options are available.</p>	
Sign-off Authority	<p>Credentials eligible to sign-off on the Recommendation for Certification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Automotive Service Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal Endorsement ▪ ITA-issued letter authorizing supervision and sign-off of apprentices in this occupation 	



Apprenticeship Program Standards

Challenging Certification The following certifications can be challenged for advanced placement in this program:

Certification Eligibility Criteria

- | | |
|-------|--|
| AST 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approved Challenge Application ▪ 2,385 hours of Trade-Related Work Experience |
| AST 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approved Challenge Application ▪ 2,385 hours (4,770 total) of Trade-Related Work Experience ▪ Automotive Service Technician 1 BC Certificate of Qualification or Documentation of credit for Automotive Service Technician Level 1 |
| AST 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approved Challenge Application ▪ 2,385 hours (7,155 total) of Trade-Related Work Experience ▪ Automotive Service Technician 1 & 2 BC Certificate of Qualification or Documentation of credit for Automotive Service Technician Level 1 & 2 |

Note: Apprentices from another Canadian jurisdiction who can document achievement of AST Level 1, 2 or 3 are **not** required to write the AST 1, 2, 3 Certificate of Qualification examinations as a prerequisite to entering the AST 1, 2, 3 or 4 apprenticeship programs.

Cross-Program Credits Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are entitled to receive partial credit toward the completion requirements of AST 1

Credential	Credit(s) Granted
Heavy Duty Equipment Technician – Certificate of Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical Training: None ▪ Work-Based Training: 1,590 hours*
Truck and Transport Mechanic – Certificate of Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical Training: None ▪ Work-Based Training: 1,590 hours*

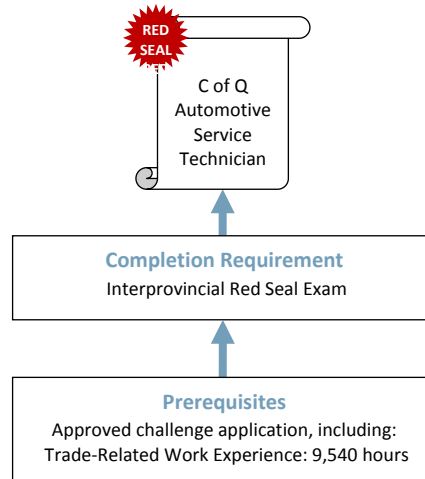
*Individuals who are holders of both certificates will only be awarded credit for 1,590 WBT hours total.



Challenge Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Automotive Service Technician challenge pathway.

C of Q = Certificate of Qualification



CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are entitled to receive partial credit toward the completion requirements of this program

Military certificate in Vehicle Technician MT #129 / #411, QL5 or higher

Work-Based Training: 9,540 hours

Challenge Program Standards

Credentials Awarded Automotive Service Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement

ITA Registration Prerequisites An approved Challenge Application, which includes:

- 9,540 documented hours of directly related experience working in the occupation (Hours must reflect minimum of 2,385 hours working at AST Level 4)

Credit for Prior Learning Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are considered to have met or partially met the requirements for challenging this program.

Credential	Credit(s) Granted
Military certificate in Vehicle Technician MT #129 / #411, QL5 or higher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 9,540 workplace hours ▪ Approved Challenge Application

Completion Requirements Certification as a Automotive Service Technician is awarded upon successful completion of:

Requirement	Level of Achievement Required
Interprovincial Red Seal Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70%



Foundation Program

Refer to the Apprenticeship pathway diagram for this program to see how the Automotive Service Technician Foundation program fits into apprenticeship.

Foundation Program Standards

Credentials Awarded	Automotive Service Technician - Certificate of Completion	
Enrollment Pre-requisites	Contact training provider. Prerequisites vary between training institutions.	
Completion Requirements	A Certificate of Completion in this program is awarded upon successful completion of:	
	Requirement	Level of Achievement Required
	Technical Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70%
Program Duration	Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 900 hours to complete.	
Credit toward Apprenticeship	Individuals who complete the Automotive Service Technician Foundation program will receive the following credit toward completion of the Automotive Service Technician apprenticeship program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical Training: Level 1 ▪ Work-based training: 450 hours 	

Supporting Documents

Automotive Service Technician Program Outline (2016) – Defines the full scope of knowledge and skills required to competently perform the occupation in BC. This single document includes full Program Outlines for Automotive Service Technician 1, 2, 3 and 4. Available from the ITA website.

Automotive Service Technician Red Seal Occupational Standard (2016) – Prepared by industry experts, under the guidance of the federal government, for Red Seal trades to define the national standard of competence for the trade. Available from the Red Seal website: www.red-seal.ca.

Contacts

The **Industry Training Authority (ITA)** manages B.C.'s industry training and apprenticeship programs. Contact ITA Customer Service if you have any questions regarding registration, examinations or certification for this program.

Telephone:	778-328-8700	Fax:	778-328-8701
Toll Free (within BC):	1-866-660-6011	Email:	customerservice@itabc.ca
Website:	www.itabc.ca		

Revision History

The standards for this program were reviewed and/or updated on the dates below.

Program Standards Approved:	March 2002 (ITAC)
Updated:	September 2006
	June 2008
	November 2008



INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE
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January 2009
July 2009
May 2012
July 2012
December 2012
February 2017
April 2018

Program Profiles are updated regularly. Visit www.itabc.ca for the most current version.