

ARBORIST TECHNICIAN

Occupation Description

An “Arborist Technician” is a person who undertakes to prune and perform other work on trees from the ground. In their work Arborist Technicians identify plants, select rigging gear, and have knowledge of how to fall, limb and buck trees, assist climbers, chip brush, cut wood and clean-up sites after tree care operations.

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, an individual can become certified as an Arborist Technician by completing the Arborist Technician program or by challenging the certification. Apprenticeship programs are for individuals who have an employer to sponsor them and challenge programs are for individuals who have extensive experience working in the occupation and wish to challenge the certification.

Youth can begin apprenticeship in high school through either the Secondary School Apprenticeship (SSA) program or the ACE IT program. The SSA program is available for any trade if an employer is willing to sponsor the student. Trades offered through ACE IT vary by region; contact your local school district to find out which technical training programs are being offered through ACE IT in your region.

Recommended and/or Required 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 10 or equivalent, including English 10, Math 10 and Science 10

ITA Registration

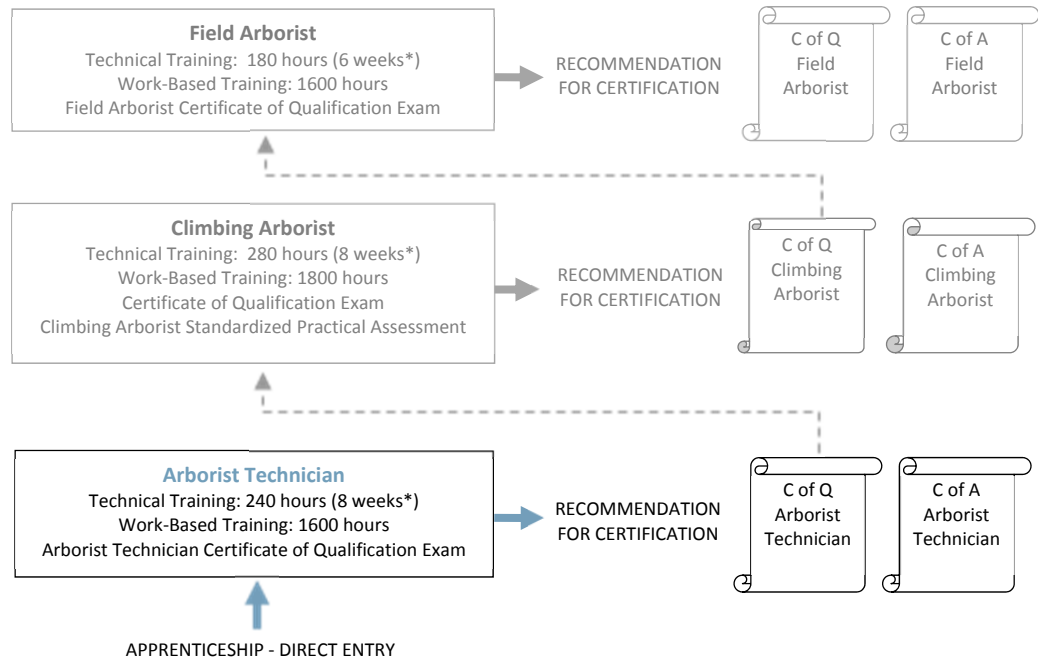
Individuals who wish to begin an apprenticeship in this program must register with ITA along with their sponsors. Application forms for all programs are available from the ITA website. Online registration is also available for most programs through the ITA website.

Those who wish to challenge the Arborist Technician certification must complete the Arborist Technician Challenge Application and submit it to ITA. Challenge 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 Arborist Technician apprenticeship pathway.

C of Q = Certificate of Qualification
C of A = Certificate of Apprenticeship



**Suggested duration based on 30 hour week*

CROSS-PROGRAM CREDITS

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

None



INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE
RECOGNIZED PROGRAM

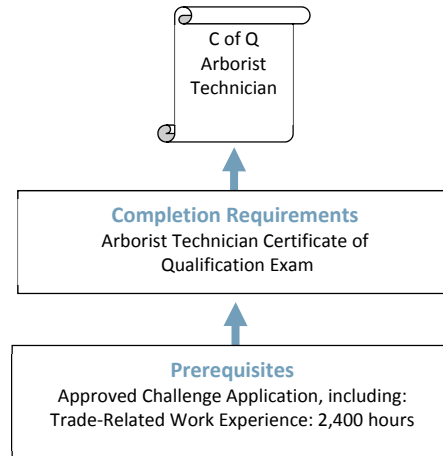
Apprenticeship Program Standards

Credentials Awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Arborist Technician – Certificate of Apprenticeship 										
ITA Registration Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Signed agreement from employer to sponsor the apprentice (Sponsor) 										
Completion Requirements	<p>Certification as an Arborist Technician is awarded upon successful completion of:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Requirement</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Level of Achievement Required</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Technical Training</td> <td>Minimum 70% in technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In-school: 240 hours (or 8 weeks*) </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Work-Based Training</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,600 hours </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Recommendation for Certification</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommendation for certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off authority </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Arborist Technician Certificate of Qualification Exam</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70% </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(*Assuming 30 hours in school per week)</i></p>	Requirement	Level of Achievement Required	Technical Training	Minimum 70% in technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In-school: 240 hours (or 8 weeks*) 	Work-Based Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,600 hours 	Recommendation for Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommendation for certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off authority 	Arborist Technician Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70%
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Program Duration	<p>Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 1 year 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"> ▪ Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Climbing Arborist – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Field Arborist – Certificate of Qualification ▪ ITA-issued letter authorizing supervision and sign-off of apprentices in this occupation 										
Challenging a Level	<p>The following levels of technical training can be challenged for advanced placement in this program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None 										
Cross-Program Credits	<p>Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are entitled to receive partial credit toward the completion requirements of this program:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Credential</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Credit(s) Granted</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>None</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Credential	Credit(s) Granted	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 						
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Challenge Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Arborist 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

None

Challenge Program Standards

Credentials Awarded	Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification				
ITA Registration Prerequisites	An approved Challenge Application, which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2,400 documented hours of directly related experience working in the occupation 				
Credentials Entitled to Challenge	Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are entitled to write the Arborist Technician Certificate of Qualification Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Utility Arborist – Certificate of Qualification 				
Completion Requirements	Certification as an Arborist Technician is awarded upon successful completion of: <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Requirement</th> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Level of Achievement Required</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification Exam</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70% </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Requirement	Level of Achievement Required	Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70%
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INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE RECOGNIZED PROGRAM

Supporting Documents

Arborist Technician Program Outline (2010) – Defines the full scope of knowledge and skills required to competently perform the occupation in BC. Available from the ITA website.

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
Toll Free (within BC): 1-866-660-6011
Website: www.itabc.ca

Fax: 778-328-8701
Email: customerservice@itabc.ca

Revision History

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

Program Standards Approved: May 2009
Updated: June 2011
March 2013

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