



CLIMBING ARBORIST

Occupation Description

A “Climbing Arborist” is a certified tradesperson who cares for and maintains trees and other woody shrubs. Climbing Arborists perform tasks such as tree risk assessments, pruning and removal of trees. In their work they use both climbing and aerial lift devices, rope and rope-tools for rigging. They also identify and remediate mechanical injuries, damage, other abiotic tree disorders, and common root and crown disorders.

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 a Climbing Arborist by completing the Climbing Arborist 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.

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 10 or equivalent including English 10, Mathematics 10 and Science 10
- Preferred: Grade 12

ITA Registration

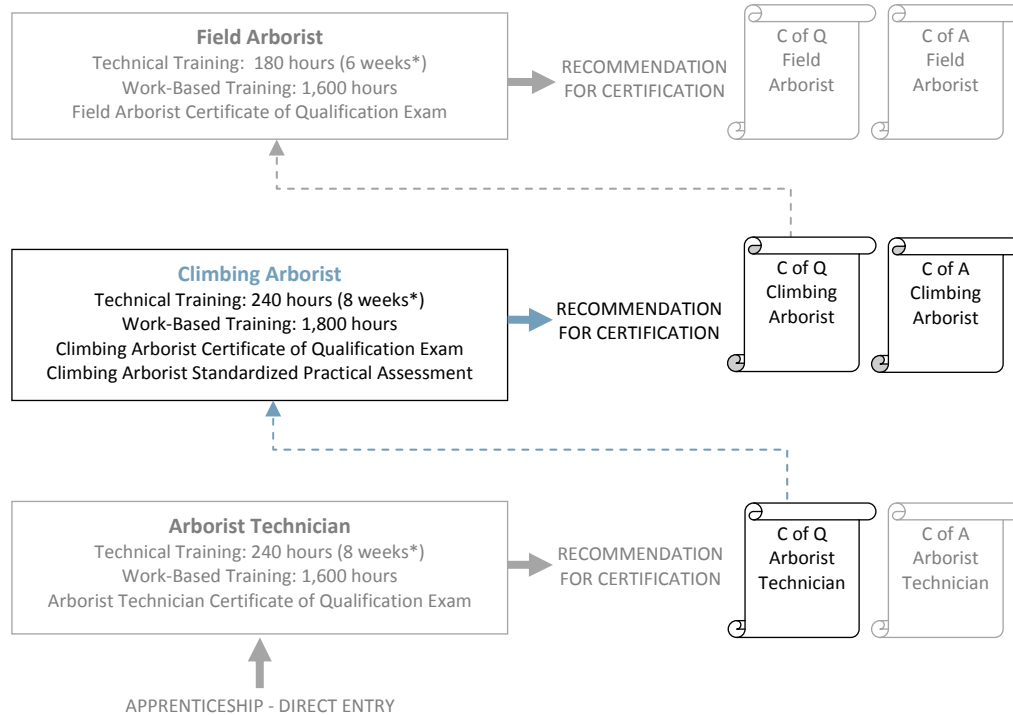
Individuals who wish to begin an apprenticeship in this program must register with ITA along with their sponsor. Application forms are available from the ITA website. Online registration is also available for most programs through the ITA website.

Those who wish to challenge the Climbing Arborist certification must complete the Climbing Arborist 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 Climbing Arborist 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

C of Q Utility Arborist
 Technical Training: None
 Work-Based Training: 800 hours



INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE
RECOGNIZED PROGRAM

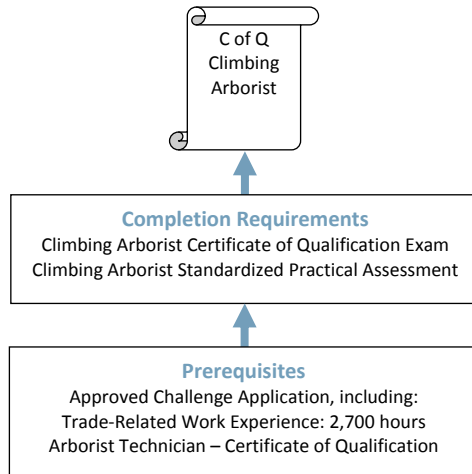
Apprenticeship Program Standards

Credentials Awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Climbing Arborist – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Climbing Arborist – Certificate of Apprenticeship 												
ITA Registration Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agreement signed by the employer to sponsor the apprentice ▪ Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification 												
Completion Requirements	<p>Certification as a Climbing Arborist is awarded upon successful completion of:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <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 of 70% in technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In-school: 240 hours (or 8 weeks*) </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Climbing Arborist Certificate of Qualification Exam</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70% </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Climbing Arborist Standardized Practical Assessment</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Declared competent by an ITA-registered Climbing Arborist Assessor in all 7 units of competency; view the 7 units of competency in the Climbing Arborist Program Outline, available from the ITA website </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Work-Based Training</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,800 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> </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 of 70% in technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In-school: 240 hours (or 8 weeks*) 	Climbing Arborist Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70% 	Climbing Arborist Standardized Practical Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Declared competent by an ITA-registered Climbing Arborist Assessor in all 7 units of competency; view the 7 units of competency in the Climbing Arborist Program Outline, available from the ITA website 	Work-Based Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,800 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
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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"> ▪ 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> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Level</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Prerequisites</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Level	Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 								
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Challenge Pathway

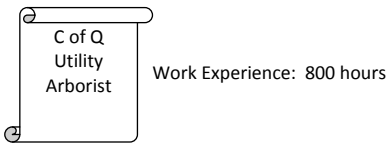
This graphic provides an overview of the Climbing Arborist challenge pathway.

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





**INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE
RECOGNIZED PROGRAM**

Challenge Program Standards

Credentials Awarded Climbing Arborist – Certificate of Qualification

ITA Registration Prerequisites An approved Challenge Application, which includes:

- 2,700 documented hours of directly related experience working as a Climbing Arborist
- Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification

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

Credential	Credit(s) Granted
Utility Arborist – Certificate of Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work Experience: 800 hours

Completion Requirements Certification as a Climbing Arborist is awarded upon successful completion of:

Requirement	Level of Achievement Required
Climbing Arborist Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70%
Climbing Arborist Standardized Practical Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must pass Climbing Arborist Certificate of Qualification exam prior to taking Practical Assessment ▪ Declared competent by an ITA-registered Climbing Arborist Assessor in all 7 units of competency; view the 7 units of competency in the Climbing Arborist Program Outline, available from the ITA website



INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE RECOGNIZED PROGRAM

Supporting Documents

Climbing Arborist Program Outline (2013) – 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	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: December 2012

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