POWER LINE TECHNICIAN

Occupation Description

“Power Line Technician” means a person who installs, constructs, alters, repairs, maintains, tests, services and operates related overhead, underground and marine electrical transmission and distribution systems.

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 Power Line Technician by completing the Power Line 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 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.

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, Mathematics 11 and Physics 11

ITA Registration

Individuals who wish to begin an apprenticeship in this program must register with ITA along with their sponsor. 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 Power Line Technician certification must complete the Power Line 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 Power Line Technician apprenticeship pathway.

C of Q = Certificate of Qualification
C of A = Certificate of Apprenticeship
WBT = Work-Based Training

Power Line Technician Level 3
Technical Training: 160 hours (approx. 5 weeks*)
Work-Based Training: 6,350 hours, including minimum
500 WBT hours “live line” work
Interprovincial Red Seal exam

Power Line Technician Level 2
Technical Training: 160 hours (approx. 5 weeks*)
Work-Based Training: Accumulate hours

Power Line Technician Level 1
Technical Training: 160 hours (approx. 5 weeks*)
Work-Based Training: Accumulate hours

APPRENTICESHIP - DIRECT ENTRY

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

- None
Apprenticeship Program Standards

Credentials Awarded
- Power Line Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement
- Power Line Technician – Certificate of Apprenticeship

ITA Registration Prerequisites
- Agreement signed by the employer to sponsor the apprentice

Completion Requirements
Certification as a Power Line Technician is awarded upon successful completion of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Level of Achievement Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical Training</td>
<td>Minimum 70% in each level of technical training:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Level 1: 160 hours (or approx. 5 weeks*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Level 2: 160 hours (or approx. 5 weeks*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Level 3: 160 hours (or approx. 5 weeks*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interprovincial Red Seal Exam</td>
<td>Minimum 70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work-Based Training</td>
<td>Minimum 6,350 hours, including minimum 500 hours completed with a crew doing “live line” work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Employer sponsor(s) must submit a letter to ITA verifying completion of required “live line” work hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation for Certification</td>
<td>Recommendation for certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off authority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*Assuming 30 hours in school per week)

Program Duration
Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 3.5 years to complete.

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.

Sign-off Authority
Credentials eligible to sign-off on the Recommendation for Certification:
- Power Line Technician – Certificate of Qualification
- Power Line Technician – Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement

Challenging a Level
The following levels of technical training can be challenged for advanced placement in this program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credential</th>
<th>Credit(s) Granted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Challenge Pathway
This graphic provides an overview of the Power Line Technician challenge pathway.

C of Q = Certificate of Qualification

Completion Requirements
Interprovincial Red Seal Exam

Prerequisites
Approved challenge application, including:
- Trade-Related Work Experience: 9,525 hours, including minimum 500 hours "live line" work

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
Power Line Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement

ITA Registration Prerequisites
An approved Challenge Application, which includes:
- 9,525 documented hours of directly related experience working in the occupation, including minimum 500 hours completed with a crew doing “live line” work
- Employer sponsor(s) must submit a letter to ITA verifying completion of required “live line” work hours

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
- None

Credit(s) Granted
- N/A

Completion Requirements
Certification as a Power Line Technician is awarded upon successful completion of:

Requirement
Interprovincial Red Seal Exam

Level of Achievement Required
- Minimum 70%
Supporting Documents
Power Line 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: March 2002
Updated: January 2006
March 2009
July 2010

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