



PRODUCTION HORTICULTURIST

Occupation Description

“Production Horticulturist” means a person who grows crops in both nursery and/or greenhouse environments. They prepare growing mediums, propagate, grow, grade, prune and prepare plants for distribution. They also control plants pests utilizing integrated pest management techniques.

Pathways to Certification

In BC, an individual can become certified as a Production Horticulturist by completing the BC Production Horticulturist 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.

Foundation programs, where available, provide adults and youth who do not have work experience nor 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.

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
- Grade 12 preferred

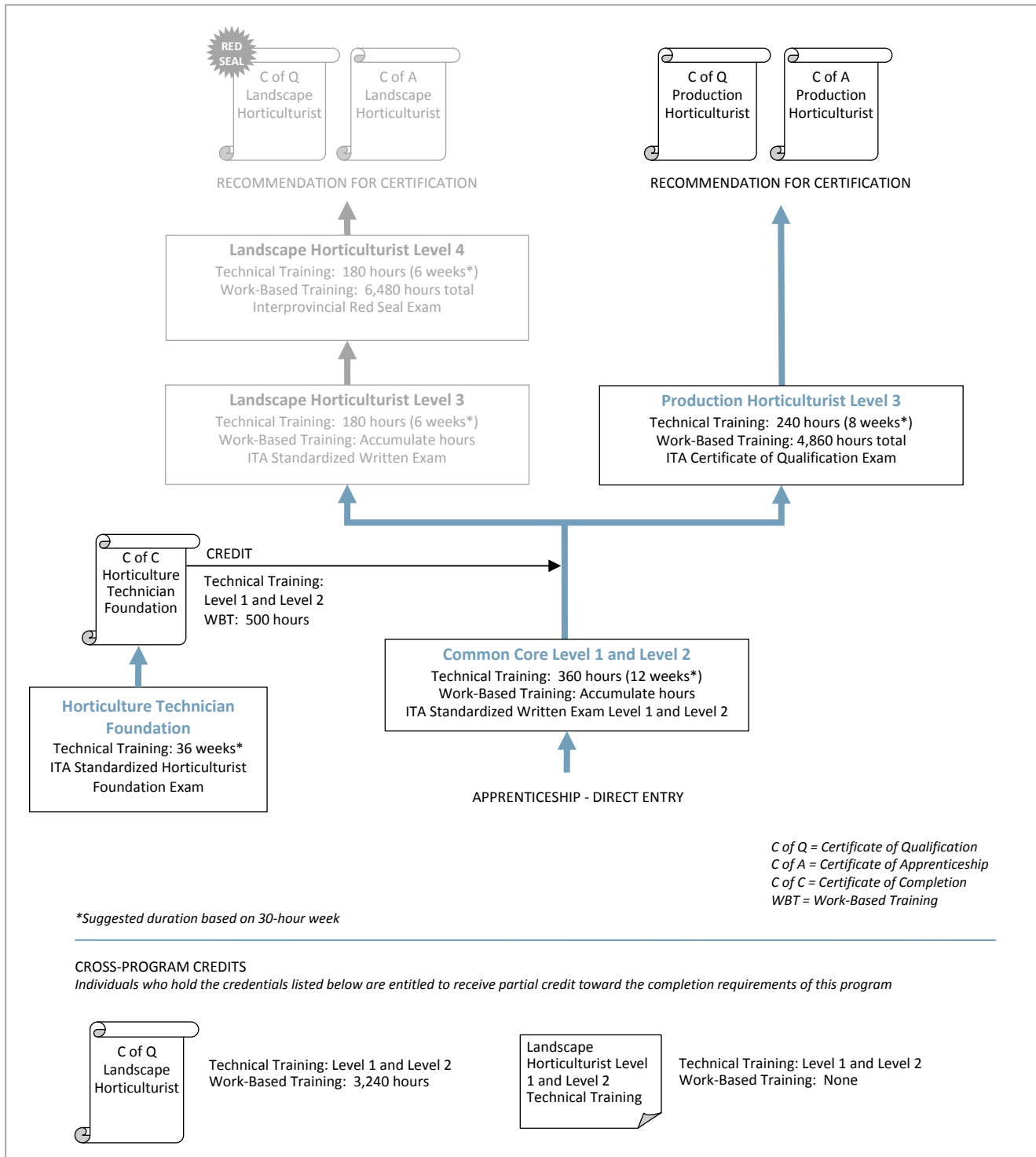
ITA Registration

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 Production Horticulturist certification must complete the Production Horticulturist 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 Production Horticulturist apprenticeship pathway.





INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE
RECOGNIZED PROGRAM

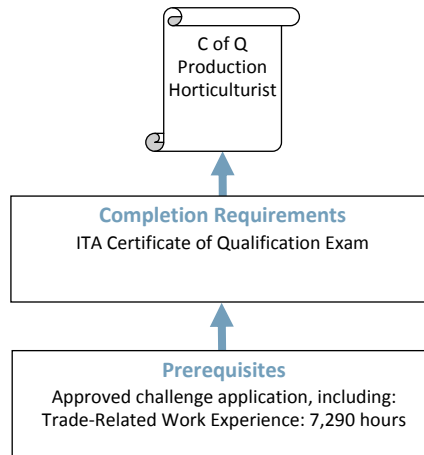
Apprenticeship Program Standards

Credentials Awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Production Horticulturist – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Production Horticulturist – Certificate of Apprenticeship 										
ITA Registration Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agreement signed by the employer to sponsor the apprentice 										
Completion Requirements	<p>Certification as a Production Horticulturist 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 each level of technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Level 1: 180 hours (or 6 weeks*) with ITA standardized written exam ▪ Level 2: 180 hours (or 6 weeks*) with ITA standardized written exam ▪ Level 3: 240 hours (or 8 weeks*) </td> </tr> <tr> <td>ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70% </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Work-Based Training</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 4,860 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 70% in each level of technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Level 1: 180 hours (or 6 weeks*) with ITA standardized written exam ▪ Level 2: 180 hours (or 6 weeks*) with ITA standardized written exam ▪ Level 3: 240 hours (or 8 weeks*) 	ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70% 	Work-Based Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 4,860 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 3 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"> ▪ Production Horticulturist – 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="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <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"> ▪ Level 1 ▪ Level 2 </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None ▪ None </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Level	Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Level 1 ▪ Level 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None ▪ None 						
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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>Landscape Horticulturist – Certificate of Qualification</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical Training: Level 1 and Level 2 ▪ Work-Based Training: 3,240 hours </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landscape Horticulturist Level 1 and Level 2</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical Training: Level 1 and Level 2 ▪ Work-Based Training: None </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Credential	Credit(s) Granted	Landscape Horticulturist – Certificate of Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical Training: Level 1 and Level 2 ▪ Work-Based Training: 3,240 hours 	Landscape Horticulturist Level 1 and Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical Training: Level 1 and Level 2 ▪ Work-Based Training: None 				
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Challenge Pathway

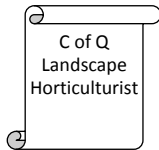
This graphic provides an overview of the Production Horticulturist challenge pathway.

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



Work Experience: 3,240 hours



**INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE
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Challenge Program Standards

Credentials Awarded	Production Horticulturist – Certificate of Qualification				
ITA Registration Prerequisites	An approved Challenge Application, which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 7,290 documented hours of directly related experience working in the occupation				
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: <table><thead><tr><th>Credential</th><th>Credit(s) Granted</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Landscape Horticulturist – Certificate of Qualification</td><td>▪ Work Experience: 3,240 hours</td></tr></tbody></table>	Credential	Credit(s) Granted	Landscape Horticulturist – Certificate of Qualification	▪ Work Experience: 3,240 hours
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INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE RECOGNIZED PROGRAM

Foundation Program

Refer to the Apprenticeship pathway diagram for this program to see how the Horticulturist Technician Foundation program leads to apprenticeship in this trade.

Foundation Program Standards

Credentials Awarded	Horticulture Technician– Certificate of Completion				
Enrollment Prerequisites	Contact training provider. Prerequisites vary between training institutions				
Completion Requirements	A Certificate of Completion in this program 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:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Level 1 and Level 2 technical training, including ITA Standardized Horticulturist Foundation Exam</td></tr></tbody></table>	Requirement	Level of Achievement Required	Technical Training	Minimum 70% in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Level 1 and Level 2 technical training, including ITA Standardized Horticulturist Foundation Exam
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Technical Training	Minimum 70% in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Level 1 and Level 2 technical training, including ITA Standardized Horticulturist Foundation Exam				
Program Duration	Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but program generally takes 36 weeks to complete, assuming 30 hours in school per week				
Credit toward Apprenticeship	Individuals who complete the Horticulture Technician Foundation program will receive the following credit toward completion of the Production Horticulturist apprenticeship program: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Technical Training: Level 1 and 2Work-Based Training: 500 hours				



INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE RECOGNIZED PROGRAM

Supporting Documents

Production Horticulturist 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
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 (ITAC)
Updated: January 2004
November 2008
June 2011
February 2012
December 2013
January 2014

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