

## **SAW FILER**

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### **Occupation Description**

“Saw Filer” means a person who maintains all types of saws, including circular saws, band saws, gang saws, chain saws, and operates, repairs and adjusts saw sharpening equipment and is also competent to bench all circular and gang saws, including tensioning, welding cracks, welding on teeth and included any other work that is usually performed by a Saw Filer in the Lumber Manufacturing Industry.

*Optional Endorsement:* “Benchperson” means a person who is a qualified Saw Filer who is able to bench band saws, including the lining up of head rigs, grinding of band wheels and any other work usually performed by a Benchperson in the Lumber Manufacturing Industry.

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 Saw Filer by completing the Saw Filer 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 10 or equivalent including English 10, Math 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 for all programs are available from the ITA website. Online registration is also available for most programs through the ITA website.

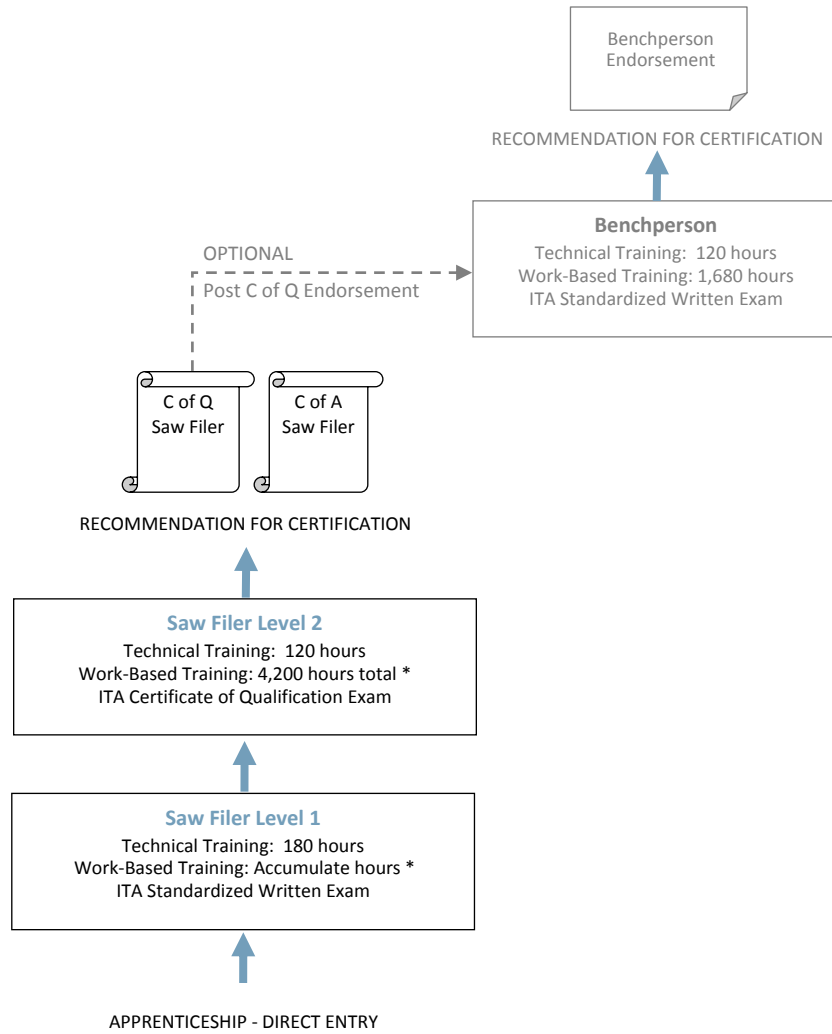
Those who wish to challenge the Saw Filer certification must complete the Saw Filer Challenge Application and submit it to ITA. Challenge applications are assessed for proof of workplace hours and scope of experience prior to acceptance of the individual into the Challenge pathway.

Those who wish to challenge the Benchperson Endorsement must complete the Benchperson Endorsement 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 Saw Filer apprenticeship pathway.

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



*\* 840 hours of work-based training in the Saw Filer trade recommended prior to entering Level 1 Technical Training; 2,520 hours of work-based training in the Saw Filer trade recommended prior to entering Level 2 Technical Training*

**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**

- Saw Filer – Certificate of Qualification
- Saw Filer – Certificate of Apprenticeship

**Note:** Refer to the Benchperson Endorsement Program Standards below to see how this endorsement fits into the apprenticeship pathway for this occupation.

**ITA Registration Prerequisites**

- Agreement signed by the employer to sponsor the apprentice

**Completion Requirements**

Certification as a Saw Filer is awarded upon successful completion of:

Requirement	Level of Achievement Required
Technical Training	Minimum 70% in each level of technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Level 1: 180 hours and ITA Standardized Written Exam</li> <li>▪ Level 2: 120 hours</li> </ul>
ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 70%</li> </ul>
Work-Based Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4,200 hours</li> </ul>
Recommendation for Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recommendation for certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off authority</li> <li>▪ Signoff of required competencies</li> </ul>

**Program Duration**

Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 2 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:

- Saw Filer – Certificate of Qualification
- Saw Filer – Certificate of Qualification with Benchperson Endorsement
- Circular Sawfiler – Certificate of Qualification
- Benchperson – Certificate of Qualification
- ITA-issued letter authorizing supervision and sign-off of apprentices in this occupation



**INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE  
RECOGNIZED PROGRAM**

**Apprenticeship Program Standards**

**Challenging a Level**

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

<b>Level</b>	<b>Prerequisites</b>
▪ Level 1	▪ N/A

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**Cross-Program Credits**

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

<b>Credential</b>	<b>Credit (s) Granted</b>
▪ None	▪ N/A

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**Benchperson Endorsement Program**

Refer to the Apprenticeship pathway credentialing model for this program to see how the Benchperson Endorsement program fits into the apprenticeship pathway for this occupation.

**Benchperson Endorsement Program Standards**

**Credentials Awarded**      ▪ Benchperson Endorsement

**ITA Registration Pre-requisites**  ▪ Saw Filer – Certificate of Qualification

**Completion Requirements**      A Benchperson endorsement will be awarded and included on the apprentice’s original Saw Filer Certificate of Qualification upon successful completion of:

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Level of Achievement Required</b>
Technical Training	Minimum 70% in technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 120 hours and ITA Standardized Written Exam</li> </ul>
Work-Based Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1,680 hours</li> </ul>
Recommendation for Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recommendation for certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off authority</li> <li>▪ Signoff of required competencies</li> </ul>

(\*Assuming 30 hours in school per week)

**Program Duration**      Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes one year 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:

- Benchperson – Certificate of Qualification
- Saw Filer– Certificate of Qualification with Benchperson Endorsement
- ITA-issued letter authorizing supervision and sign-off of apprentices in this occupation

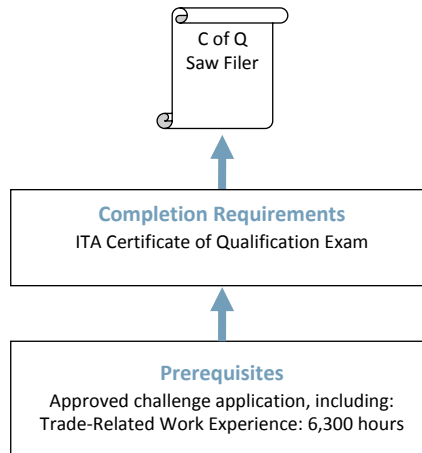
**Challenging a Level**      The following levels of technical training can be challenged for advanced placement in this program:

- None

**Challenge Pathway**

This graphic provides an overview of the Saw Filer challenge pathway.

*C of Q = Certificate of Qualification*



**CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING**

*Individuals who hold the credential(s) listed below are considered to receive partial credit toward the completion requirements of this program*

*None*

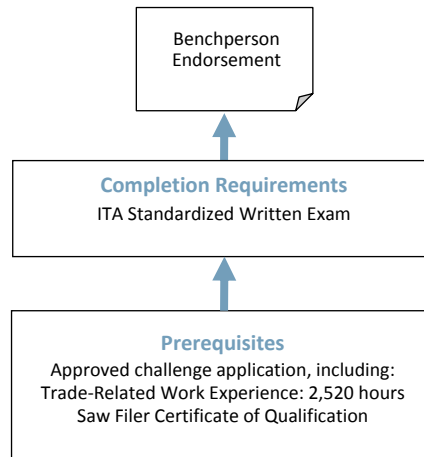
**Challenge Program Standards**

<b>Credentials Awarded</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Saw Filer – Certificate of Qualification</li> </ul>				
<b>ITA Registration Prerequisites</b>	<p>An approved Challenge Application, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 6,300 documented hours of directly related experience working in the occupation</li> </ul>				
<b>Credit for Prior Learning</b>	<p>Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are considered to have met or partially met the prerequisites for challenging this program:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;"><b>Credential</b></th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;"><b>Credit(s) Granted</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul> </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ N/A</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Credential</b>	<b>Credit(s) Granted</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ N/A</li> </ul>
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<b>Completion Requirements</b>	<p>Certification as a Saw Filer is awarded upon successful completion of:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;"><b>Requirement</b></th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;"><b>Level of Achievement Required</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 70%</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Level of Achievement Required</b>	ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 70%</li> </ul>
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ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 70%</li> </ul>				

### Challenge Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Benchperson Endorsement challenge pathway.

*C of Q = Certificate of Qualification*



**CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING**

*Individuals who hold the credential(s) listed below are considered to have met, or partially met, the prerequisites for challenging this program*

None

### Challenge Program Standards – Benchperson Endorsement

**Credentials Awarded**

- Benchperson Endorsement

**ITA Registration Prerequisites**

An approved Challenge Application, which includes:

- 2,520 documented hours of directly related experience working as a Benchperson
- Saw Filer – 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:

<b>Credential</b>	<b>Credit(s) Granted</b>
▪ None	▪ N/A

**Completion Requirements**

A Benchperson Endorsement will be awarded and added to the challenger’s original Saw Filer Certificate of Qualification upon successful completion of:

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Level of Achievement Required</b>
ITA Standardized Written Exam	▪ Minimum 70%



## INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE RECOGNIZED PROGRAM

### Supporting Documents

Saw Filer Program Outline (2013) – Defines the full scope of knowledge and skills required to competently perform the occupation in BC. Available from ITA's 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](http://www.itabc.ca)

Fax: 778-328-8701  
Email: [customerservice@itabc.ca](mailto:customerservice@itabc.ca)

### Revision History

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

Program Standards Approved: March 2013  
Updated: December 2016

Program Profiles are updated regularly. Visit [www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca) for the most current version.