



## **CABINETMAKER**

**THIS BC PROGRAM HAS BEEN HARMONIZED AND IS BASED ON RSOS 2022**

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### **Occupation Description**

Cabinetmakers build, repair, finish and install residential and commercial cabinets (including hardware), wooden furniture and architectural millwork using a variety of woods, laminates, and other products. Cabinetmakers read drawings and specifications and prepare layouts. They also set up and operate woodworking equipment, both power and computerized, to machine wood products and composite materials. Cabinetmakers use various hand and power tools, and precision woodworking tools to perform their work. In some shops, cabinetmakers sand and finish the surfaces either before or after assembly. They also apply finishing products. Some may choose to specialize in areas such as stairs, veneering, sporting equipment, musical instruments, moulding, or finishing.

For detailed information on the scope of knowledge and skills taught and assessed in this program refer to the Program Outline, available on the SkilledTradesBC website.

### **Pathways to Certification**

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

Foundation programs, where available, provide adults and youth who do not have work experience or 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, Math 10, and Science 10
- **Preferred:** Grade 12
- See [curriculum.gov.bc.ca](https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca) for a list of current BC High school course names

**SkilledTradesBC Registration**

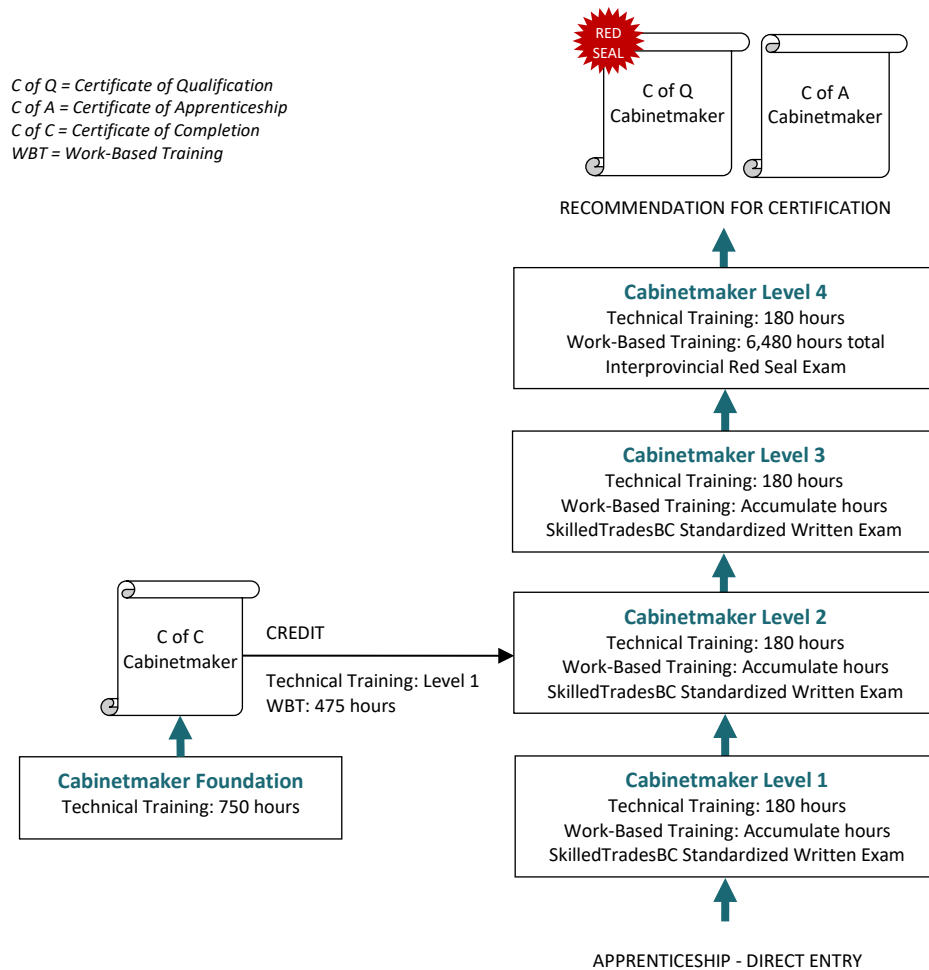
Individuals who wish to begin an apprenticeship in this program must register with SkilledTradesBC along with their sponsor. Application forms for all programs are available from the SkilledTradesBC website. Online registration is also available for most programs through the SkilledTradesBC website.

Those who wish to challenge the Cabinetmaker certification must complete the Cabinetmaker Challenge Application and submit it to SkilledTradesBC. 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 Cabinetmaker apprenticeship pathway.



### 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

- Cabinetmaker – Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal endorsement
- Cabinetmaker – Certificate of Apprenticeship

### SkilledTradesBC Registration Prerequisites

- Agreement signed by the employer to sponsor the apprentice

### Completion Requirements

Certification as a Cabinetmaker is awarded upon successful completion of:

#### Requirement

#### Level of Achievement Required

Technical Training

Minimum 70% in each level of technical training:

- Level 1: 180 hours and SkilledTradesBC standardized written exam
- Level 2: 180 hours and SkilledTradesBC standardized written exam
- Level 3: 180 hours and SkilledTradesBC standardized written exam
- Level 4: 180 hours

Interprovincial Red Seal Exam

- Minimum 70%

Work-Based Training

- 6,480 hours

Recommendation for Certification

- Recommendation for certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off authority

### Program Duration

Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 4 years to complete.

The technical training requirement is typically met through block-release training (full-time, at school) delivered by a SkilledTradesBC-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:

- Cabinetmaker – Certificate of Qualification
- Cabinetmaker – Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement
- Cabinetmaker (Joiner) – Certificate of Qualification
- SkilledTradesBC-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:

- Level 1
- Level 2
- Level 3

### Cross-Program Credits

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

#### Credential

#### Credit(s) Granted

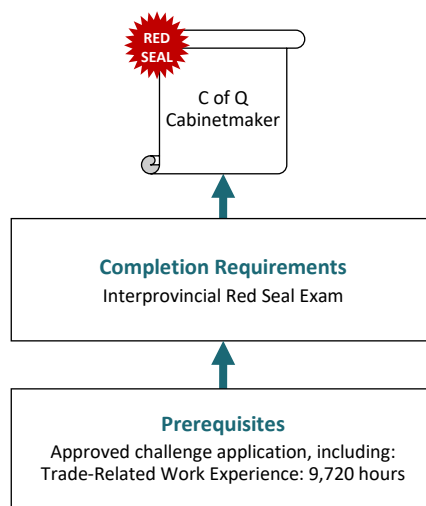
- None
- N/A



## Challenge Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Cabinetmaker 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

Cabinetmaker – Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal endorsement

### SkilledTradesBC

#### Registration Prerequisites

An approved Challenge Application, which includes:

- 9,720 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:

#### Credential

- None

#### Credit(s) Granted

- N/A

### Completion Requirements

Certification as a Cabinetmaker is awarded upon successful completion of:

#### Requirement

Interprovincial Red Seal Exam

#### Level of Achievement Required

- Minimum 70%



## Foundation Program

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

### Foundation Program Standards

**Credentials Awarded** Cabinetmaker – 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:

#### Requirement

#### Level of Achievement Required

Technical Training

- Minimum 70%

**Program Duration** Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 25 weeks to complete, assuming 30 hours in school per week

**Credit toward Apprenticeship** Individuals who complete the Cabinetmaker Foundation program will receive the following credit toward completion of the Red Seal Cabinetmaker apprenticeship program:

- Technical Training: Level 1
- Work-Based Training: 475 hours



## Supporting Documents

Cabinetmaker Program Outline (2023) – Defines the full scope of knowledge and skills required to competently perform the occupation in BC. Available from the SkilledTradesBC website.

Cabinetmaker Red Seal Occupation Standard (2022) – Prepared by industry experts, under the guidance of the federal government, for Red Seal trades to define the national standard of competence for the trade. Available from the Red Seal website: [www.red-seal.ca](http://www.red-seal.ca).

## Contacts

SkilledTradesBC manages B.C.'s industry training and apprenticeship programs. Contact SkilledTradesBC 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.skilledtradesbc.ca](http://www.skilledtradesbc.ca)

Fax: 778-328-8701  
Email: [customerservice@skilledtradesbc.ca](mailto:customerservice@skilledtradesbc.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
Updated:	January 2009
Updated:	June 2022
Updated:	October 2025

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