

Issued: March 18, 2019

Program: Landscape Horticulturist

To: ITA Training Providers
Articulation Chair
System Liaison Person
School Districts

Subject: **Harmonized Level 1 (HL1) Standardized Level Exam (SLE) Launch**

RE: **OPSN 2019 004**

Effective Date: **April 1, 2019**

Summary: ITA is introducing standardized exams for **Harmonized** Level 1 (HL1). Classes of apprentice technical training for HL1 of the Landscape Horticulturist program that begins on or after **April 1, 2019** will be required to sit the HL1 SLE. The exam will contribute 20% to an apprentice's final mark.

An Exam Weighting Chart is available for the HL1 SLE on ITA's website at <https://www.itabc.ca/program/horticulturist-landscape> in the box titled, *Standardized Level Exams*. This chart shows the approximate percentage of weighting per General Area of Competency (GAC).

Rationale: ITA has implemented Standardized Level Exams as part of an assessment strategy to ensure consistent outcomes at each program level for apprentices throughout BC.

General Information

Scheduling Exams: Exams are to be requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure. Training providers are required to complete an ITA Exam Request Form six-to-eight weeks prior to the scheduled exam date. Training providers are encouraged to identify courses using the Trades Training BC (TTBC) session ID to aid in confirmation of exam type. ITA will invigilate these exams unless other arrangements are organized between ITA's Exam Department and the training provider.

Calculating Final Percentage Scores for ITA Level Exams

Process – effective October 1, 2014

- ITA administers the SLE, records the mark in Direct Access, and reports it to the school. The apprentice is **not** notified when the SLE mark is entered.
- Training providers weight and blend the in-school (80%) and SLE (20%) marks to produce a final mark for the level (or as indicated in the Assessment

Guidelines). That final, blended mark is reported to ITA by the school and recorded in Direct Access.

- Direct Access reports the school's final blended mark for the level to the apprentice as a single percentage score.
- Once the final level mark is entered in Direct Access, the system performs a reverse calculation using the SLE mark to determine the in-school mark. All three marks are stored in the apprentice's record, but only the final level mark is reported on the ITA transcript.

A percentage score of 70% or greater is required to pass when the final in-school percentage score and the final ITA level exam percentage score are blended.

**For more
information**

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cc: ITA Staff