

**POWERLINE TECHNICIAN****THIS BC PROGRAM HAS BEEN HARMONIZED AND IS BASED ON 2019 RSOS****Occupation Description**

Powerline technicians install, maintain and repair overhead, underground and underwater powerlines and cables, and other associated equipment such as insulators, conductors, lightning arrestors, switches, metering systems, transformers and lighting infrastructure.

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 Powerline Technician by completing the Powerline 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

**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 Powerline Technician certification must complete the Powerline Technician 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.

**Skilled Trades Certification**

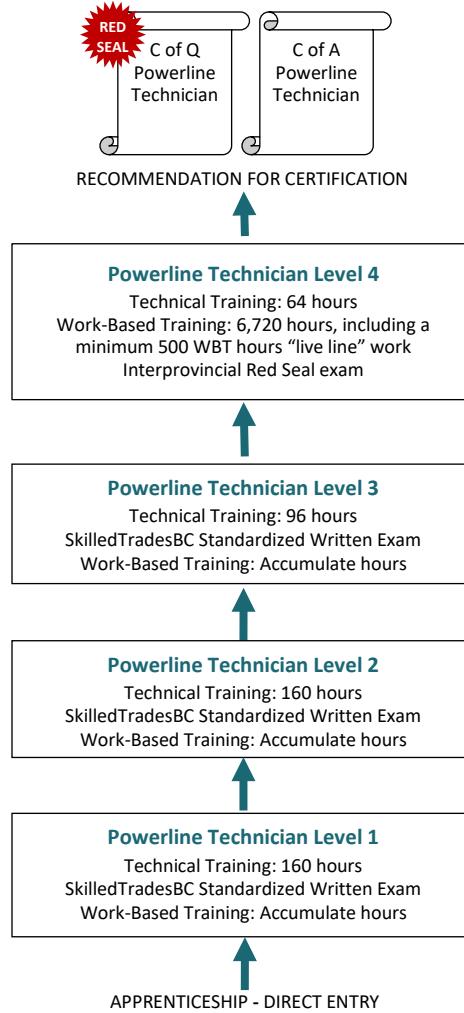
Trade workers in a trade designated as Skilled Trades Certification (STC) are required to hold certification in the trade, be registered as an apprentice, or have an approved Temporary Authorization. More information can be found at [www.skilledtradesbc.ca](http://www.skilledtradesbc.ca)



## Apprenticeship Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Powerline Technician apprenticeship pathway.

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



### 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**

- Powerline Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement
- Powerline Technician – Certificate of Apprenticeship

**SkilledTradesBC Registration Prerequisites**

- Agreement signed by the employer to sponsor the apprentice

**Completion Requirements** Certification as a Powerline Technician is awarded upon successful completion of:

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Level of Achievement Required</b>
Technical Training	<p>Minimum 70% in each level of technical training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Level 1: 160 hours and SkilledTradesBC Standardized Written Exam</li> <li>▪ Level 2: 160 hours and SkilledTradesBC Standardized Written Exam</li> <li>▪ Level 3: 96 hours and SkilledTradesBC Standardized Written Exam</li> <li>▪ Level 4: 64 hours</li> </ul>
Interprovincial Red Seal Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 70%</li> </ul>
Work-Based Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 6,720 hours, including minimum 500 hours completed with a crew doing “live line” work</li> <li>▪ Employer sponsor(s) must submit a letter to SkilledTradesBC verifying completion of required “live line” work 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> </ul>

**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:

- Powerline Technician – Certificate of Qualification
- Powerline Technician – Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement
- Uncertified Experienced Worker with a valid and active Temporary Authorization issued from SkilledTradesBC

**Challenging a Level**

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

<b>Level</b>	<b>Prerequisites</b>
▪ None	▪ N/A

**Skilled Trades Certification** The ratio of apprentice to journeyperson is 2:1.  
**Supervision Ratio**



## Apprenticeship Program Standards

### Cross-Program Credits

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

#### Credential

- None

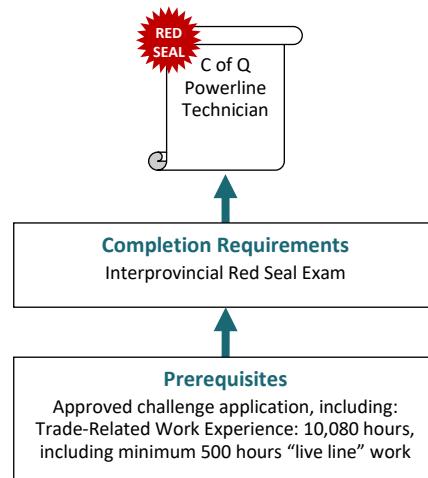
#### Credit(s) Granted

- N/A

### Challenge Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Powerline Technician 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

Powerline Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement

### SkilledTradesBC

### Registration Prerequisites

An approved Challenge Application, which includes:

- 10,080 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 SkilledTradesBC 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

#### Credential

- None

#### Credit(s) Granted

- N/A



**Completion Requirements** Certification as a Powerline Technician is awarded upon successful completion of:

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Level of Achievement Required</b>
Interprovincial Red Seal Exam	▪ Minimum 70%

## **Supporting Documents**

Powerline Technician Program Outline (2019) – Defines the full scope of knowledge and skills required to competently perform the occupation in BC. Available from the SkilledTradesBC website.

Powerline Technician Red Seal Occupational Standard (2019) – 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      Fax: 778-328-8701  
Toll Free (within BC): 1-866-660-6011      Email: [customerservice@skilledtradesbc.ca](mailto:customerservice@skilledtradesbc.ca)  
Website: [www.skilledtradesbc.ca](http://www.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  
March 2009  
July 2010  
December 2019

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