



Drywall Finisher and Plasterer

TRANSITION PLAN

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Abbreviations

| | |
|-------------|---|
| CCDA | Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship |
| CL | Current Level |
| COFQ | Certificate of Qualification |
| HL | Harmonized Level |
| IPSE | Interprovincial Red Seal Exam |
| RSOS | Red Seal Occupational Standard |
| SLE | Standardized Level Exam |
| TP | Training provider |
| TT | Technical training |
| TW | Trade worker |
| WBT | Work-based training |

Harmonization Overview

The Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship (CCDA) is responsible for the Red Seal Program, which develops common interprovincial standards and examinations.

The Harmonization Initiative is undertaken by the CCDA with the goal of substantively aligning apprenticeship systems across Canada. British Columbia is an active participant in this initiative.

Harmonization Priorities

1. Use of Red Seal **trade name**
2. Consistent **total training hours** (in-school and on-the-job)
3. Same number of **training levels**
4. Consistent **sequencing** of training content, including use of most recent Red Seal Occupational Standard (RSOS).

| What's changing for DRYWALL FINISHER | Changing in BC? | What will it be? |
|---|--------------------|---|
| TRADE NAME | YES | Drywall Finisher and Plasterer |
| NUMBER OF TRAINING LEVELS | NO | 2 |
| TOTAL HOURS technical + work-based training | YES | 5,400 hours Increase of 540 WBT |
| TRAINING SEQUENCE order of subjects taught | YES | Minimal changes to sequence |

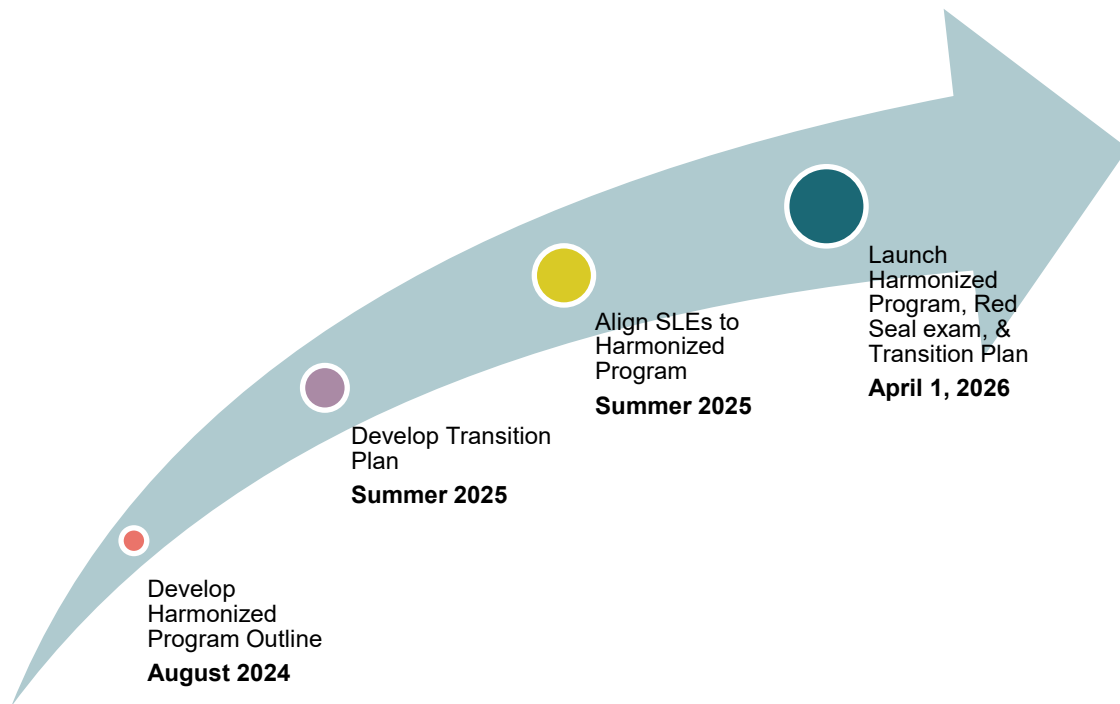
Transition Planning Process

The Drywall Finisher BC CofQ program has been approved by CCDA to become an accredited Red Seal program titled “Drywall Finisher and Plasterer”. Apprentices and Trade Qualifiers (Challengers) will write the Drywall Finisher and Plasterer Interprovincial Red Seal Exam as their certification exam and will achieve an Interprovincial Red Seal Endorsement upon successful completion of their program.

The re-sequencing of the Drywall Finisher and Plasterer program through the Harmonization Initiative has resulted in minimal changes to the sequencing of technical training.

The SkilledTradesBC Program Standards team consulted with the post-secondary training provider that delivers the Drywall Finisher and Plasterer program and considered the input of our internal and external partners. The transition plan outlined in this document was identified as the best option. We have also ensured that there are pathways for all current apprentices to complete their apprenticeship.

Program Development and Transition Planning



Training Providers (1)

Finishing Trades Institute (FTI)

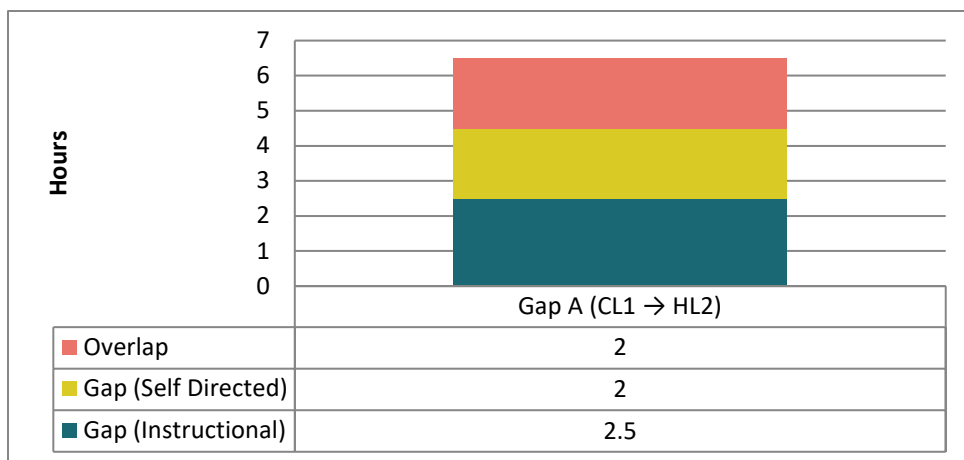
Apprentice Numbers in Current Program

| Program | Status | OTT | CL1 | CL2 | Total |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Drywall Finisher | Active | 177 | 22 | 0 | 199 |
| | Inactive | 167 | 47 | 3 | 217 |
| | Total | 344 | 69 | 3 | 416 |

Notes apprentice numbers:

1. Numbers are as of August 1, 2025.
2. **OTT:** Apprentices who are registered in SkilledTradesBC Portal but haven't completed any technical training.
3. **CL2s:** TWs who have completed CL2 are not considered in transition planning as they will not be impacted by the implementation of harmonized training. They will have the option to transfer to the new Red Seal program or remain in the existing program.
4. **Active:** Apprentices for whom activity has been logged in SkilledTradesBC Portal within the last 18 months.
5. **Inactive:** Apprentices for whom **no** activity has been logged in SkilledTradesBC Portal within the last 18 months.

The Gaps



WHAT ARE GAPS AND OVERLAPS?

A Gap is an estimate of the hours of technical training content **that an apprentice will be missing if they transition** from the current program to the Harmonized program (CL→HL) at a specific level. A current apprentice who is unable to finish their training in the current program will be transitioned to the Harmonized program at designated levels, i.e. **not** at levels that are dual streamed. A current apprentice will only transition to the Harmonized program once and so will only face a gap in their training at that one point.

Gap A (CL1→HL2) is the technical training content that an apprentice who has completed Current Level 1 will be missing if they transition into Harmonized Level 2.

An Overlap is an estimate of the hours of technical training content that an apprentice will be repeating if they transition from the current program to the Harmonized program (CL→HL) at a specific level.

WHAT ARE INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS AND SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING HOURS?

Instructional Hours is the missing content that requires instructional time to address. It is critical to the apprentice's success and is unlikely to be learnt without intervention.

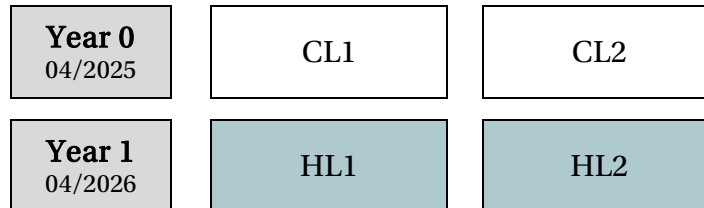
Self-Directed Learning Hours is missing content that an apprentice will likely learn in the context of other tasks or levels in technical training, on the job, or through self-study. It is not considered critical to the apprentice's success.

WHERE CAN I SEE WHAT CONTENT AN APPRENTICE WILL BE MISSING IF THEY TRANSITION AT A PARTICULAR LEVEL?

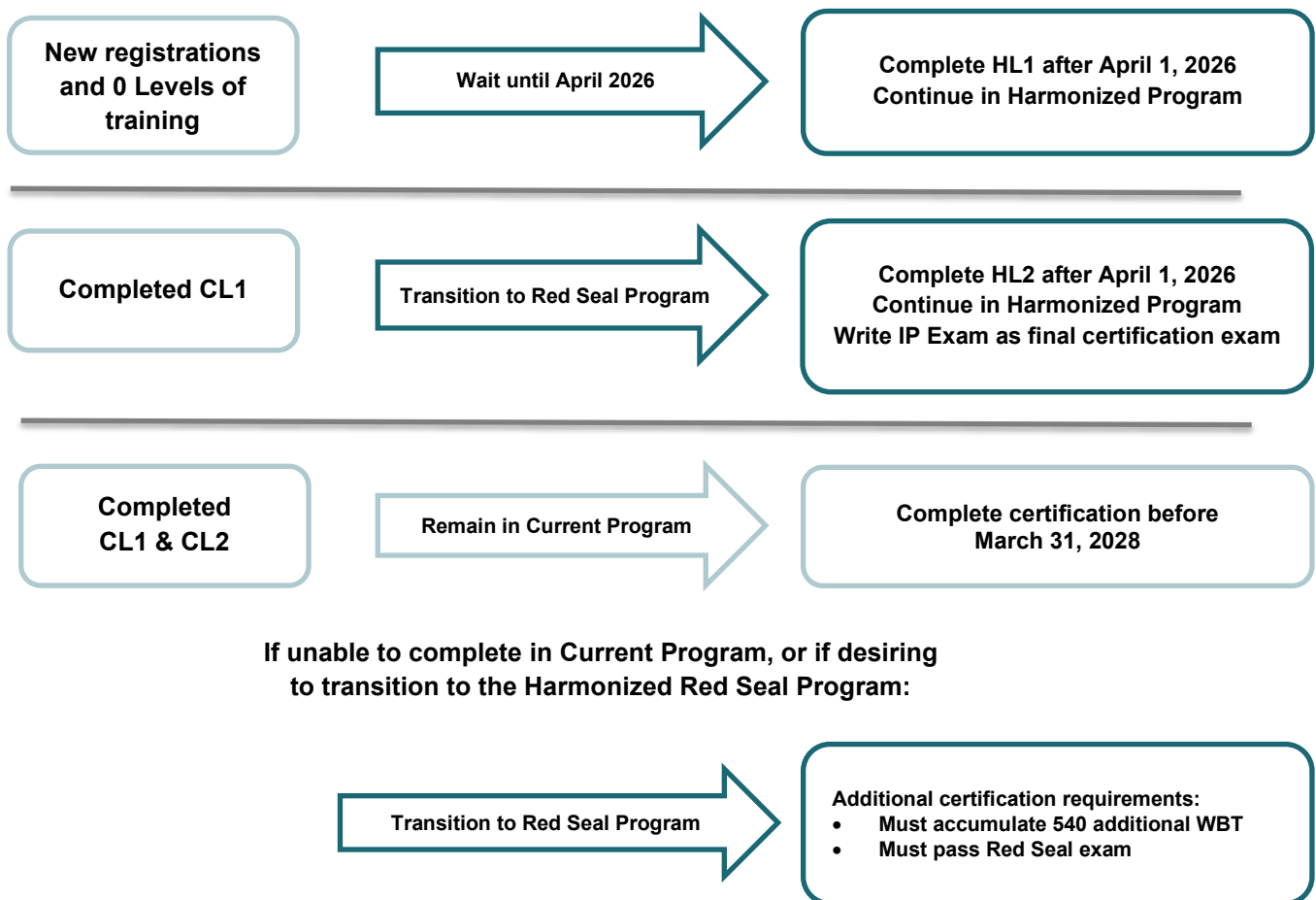
See *Appendix A: Details of Gaps* for a list of the competencies, content and achievement criteria that current apprentices will be missing if they transition to the harmonized program.

Transition Plan Summary

| Implementation Timelines | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Harmonized Level 1 (HL1) | April 1, 2026 |
| Harmonized Level 2 (HL2) | April 1, 2026 |



Pathways for Current Apprentices



Changes to Training Hours

The following changes to training time for Drywall Finisher and Plasterer will come into effect **APRIL 1, 2026**:

- Increased work-based training (WBT) hours to align with the Red Seal harmonized standard of 5,400 hours of total training (**increase of 540 hours**)
 - Apprentices are required to complete the additional 540 WBT hours.

APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAY

| Current Program | Hours |
|--|--------------|
| Technical Training | 360 |
| Level 1 = 180 hours | |
| Level 2 = 180 hours | |
| Work-based Training Hours | 4,500 |
| Current Total Training Hours | 4,860 |
| | |
| Harmonized Program | Hours |
| Technical Training | 360 |
| Level 1 = 180 hours | |
| Level 2 = 180 hours | |
| Work-based Training Hours | 5,040 |
| Harmonized Total Training Hours | 5,400 |

CHALLENGE PATHWAY AND SIGN-OFF AUTHORITY

| Current Program | Hours |
|---|--------------|
| Work-based Training Hours | 4,500 |
| SkilledTradesBC Formula for Calculating Challenge WBT | × 1.5 |
| Current Challenge WBT Hours | 6,750 |
| | |
| Harmonized Program | Hours |
| Harmonized Work-based Training Hours | 5,040 |
| SkilledTradesBC Formula for Calculating Challenge WBT | × 1.5 |
| Harmonized Challenge WBT Hours | 7,560 |

Changes to Training Hours (Notes)

CHANGES TO WORK-BASED TRAINING (WBT) HOURS

TW completes in current program - the WBT hours for the current program will apply

TW transitions to the harmonized program - the WBT hours for the harmonized program will apply. Apprentices are required to complete 5,040 WBT hours.

Exams for the Harmonized Program

| Exam | Exam Development | Tentative Exam Launch |
|------|------------------|-----------------------|
| HL1 | Summer 2025 | April 1, 2026 |

HOW WILL TRAINING PROVIDERS BE INFORMED OF THE LAUNCH OF AN HL EXAM?

An OPSN will be sent to announce the launch of the HL1 exam.

Appendix A: Details of Gaps

GAP A: CL1→HL2

Gap (Missing Content)

This table lists the content that an apprentice will be **missing** if they have completed CL1 and then take HL2.

| Competency | Missing Content | Achievement Criteria | Content Migration | Instructional Hours* | Self-directed Hours** |
|---|---|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| B6 Use texture sprayers | Learning task: Describe texture sprayers Learning task: Use texture sprayers | | HL1 ← CL2 | 1 | 2 |
| C1 Use communication and mentoring techniques | Learning task: Describe effective, inclusive, and respectful communication Learning task: Demonstrate the role of the apprentice Learning task: Describe the role of the mentor Learning task: Describe workplace equity, diversity, and inclusion | | NEW | 1 | 0 |
| E6 Resolve filler problems | Learning task: Describe board problems | | HL1 ← CL1/CL2 | 0.5 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | | | 2.5 | 2 |

***Instructional Hours** are hours of content that an apprentice would need dedicated instruction to cover.

****Self-Directed Learning Hours** are hours of content that an apprentice would be able to cover through self-study, on the job or in the context of other tasks/levels.

OVERLAP A: CL1→HL2

Overlap (Repeated Content)

This table lists the content that an apprentice will be **repeating** if they have completed CL1 and then take HL2.

| Competency | Repeating Content | Content Migration | Hours |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------|
| F1 Troubleshoot and repair problems | Learning task: describe surface problems, causes, and solutions | CL1 → HL2 | 2 |
| | | TOTAL | 2 |

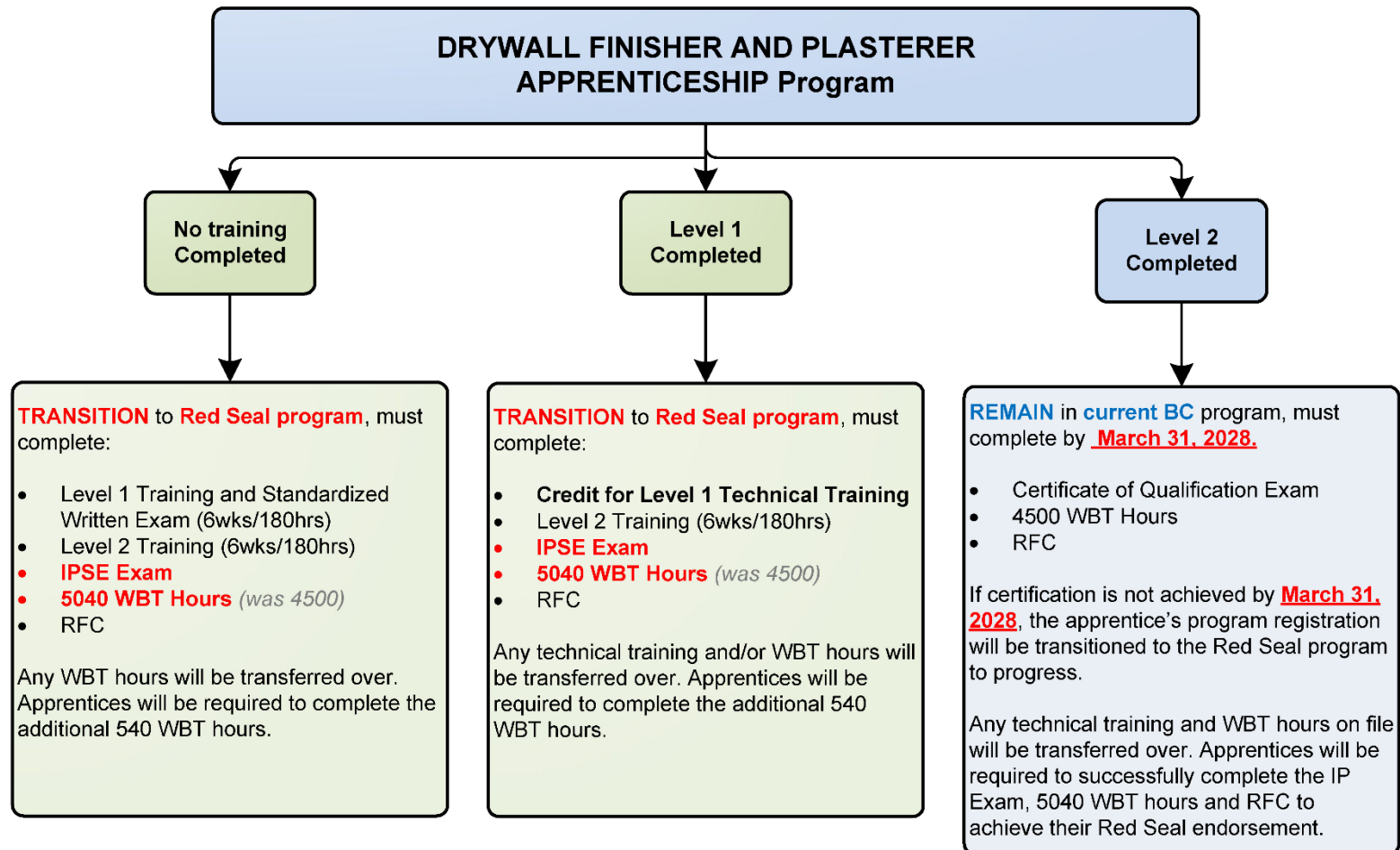
Appendix B: Communication Plan for Transition

| Audience | Purpose | Mode |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Training Provider | To announce the changes to training standards and the publication of a new Program Outline and Program Profile on the trade webpage on SkilledTradesBC website | Official Program Standards Notification (OPSN) via email and posting on trade webpage |
| Training Provider | To plan for transitioning to the new program | Phone calls, online meetings, and/or face to face meetings |
| Training Provider | To announce the final transition plan | Program Update and Transition Plan via email and posting on trade webpage |
| Training Provider | To announce the launch of the harmonized level exams | OPSN via email and posting on trade webpage |
| Employers | To inform on the upcoming changes to the program and the pathways to completion for their apprentices | Letters sent through SkilledTradesBC Portal |
| Apprentices | To inform on the upcoming changes to the program and their pathways to completion | Letters sent through SkilledTradesBC Portal |

Appendix C: Transition Map

Drywall Finisher and Plasterer Transition Map

EFFECTIVE April 1, 2026



DRYWALL FINISHER AND PLASTERER CHALLENGE PATHWAY

Red Seal Hours Requirement: **7560 hours** (CofQ exam requirement was 6750)