

## **ARBORIST TECHNICIAN**

---

### **Occupation Description**

An “Arborist Technician” is a person who undertakes to prune and perform other work on trees from the ground. In their work Arborist Technicians identify plants, select rigging gear, and have knowledge of how to fall, limb and buck trees, assist climbers, chip brush, cut wood and clean-up sites after tree care operations.

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 an Arborist Technician by completing the Arborist 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 and/or Required 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

### **SkilledTradesBC Registration**

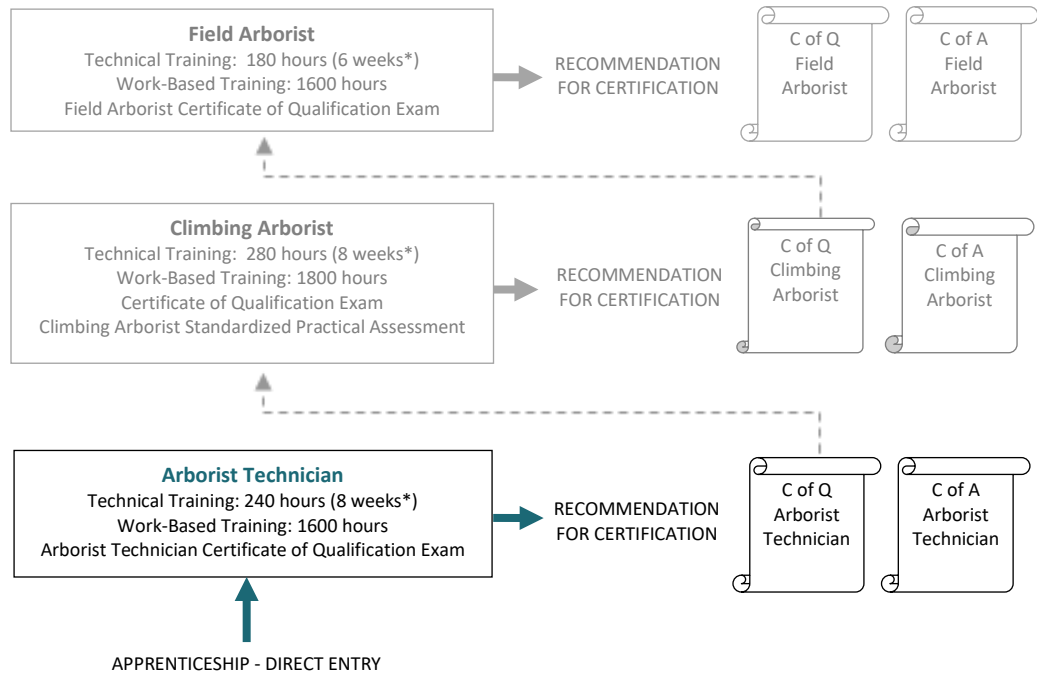
Individuals who wish to begin an apprenticeship in this program must register with SkilledTradesBC along with their sponsors. Application forms for all programs are available from the SkilledTradesBC website. Online registration is also available for most programs through the SkilledTradesBC website.

Those who wish to challenge the Arborist Technician certification must complete the Arborist 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.

**Apprenticeship Pathway**

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

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



*\*Suggested duration based on 30 hour week*

**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**

- Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification
- Arborist Technician – Certificate of Apprenticeship

**SkilledTradesBC  
Registration Prerequisites**

- Signed agreement from employer to sponsor the apprentice (Sponsor)

**Completion Requirements** Certification as an Arborist Technician is awarded 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>▪ In-school: 240 hours (or 8 weeks*)</li> </ul>
Work-Based Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1,600 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>
Arborist Technician Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 70%</li> </ul>

*(\*Assuming 30 hours in school per week)*

**Program Duration**

Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 1 year 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:

- Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification
- Climbing Arborist – Certificate of Qualification
- Field Arborist – 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:

- None

**Cross-Program Credits**

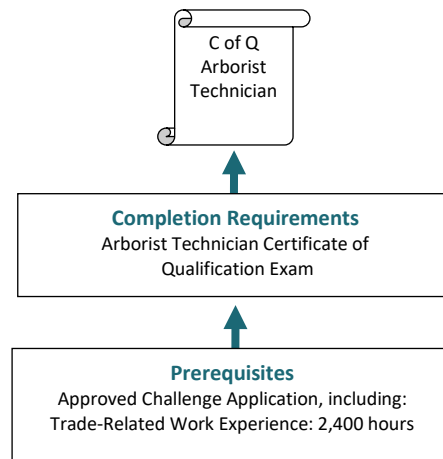
Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are entitled to receive partial credit toward the completion requirements of this program:

<b>Credential</b>	<b>Credit(s) Granted</b>
None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ N/A</li> </ul>

**Challenge Pathway**

This graphic provides an overview of the Arborist 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**

Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification

**SkilledTradesBC**

**Registration Prerequisites**

An approved Challenge Application, which includes:

- 2,400 documented hours of directly related experience working in the occupation

**Credentials Entitled to Challenge**

Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are entitled to write the Arborist Technician Certificate of Qualification Exam:

- Utility Arborist – Certificate of Qualification

**Completion Requirements**

Certification as an Arborist Technician is awarded upon successful completion of:

**Requirement**

Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification Exam

**Level of Achievement Required**

- Minimum 70%

**Supporting Documents**

Arborist Technician Program Outline (2010) – Defines the full scope of knowledge and skills required to competently perform the occupation in BC. Available from the SkilledTradesBC website.

**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:	<a href="mailto:customerservice@skilledtradesbc.ca">customerservice@skilledtradesbc.ca</a>
Website:	<a href="http://www.skilledtradesbc.ca">www.skilledtradesbc.ca</a>		

**Revision History**

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

Program Standards Approved:	May 2009
Updated:	June 2011
	March 2013

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