

FIELD ARBORIST

Occupation Description

A “Field Arborist” is a certified tradesperson who prunes and performs other work of Climbing Arborists on trees from a ground and aerial situation, including climbing and aerial bucket work. In addition, Field Arborists develop and implement Integrated Pest Management and Plant Health Care plans, develop tree preservation strategies, inspect sites and trees for damage and hazards, perform job estimating, tree inventories, and tree appraisals. They also prepare reports in the technical areas described above and perform supervisory duties.

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 Field Arborist by completing the Field Arborist 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 10 or equivalent including English 10, Mathematics 10 and Science 10
- Preferred: Grade 12

SkilledTradesBC Registration

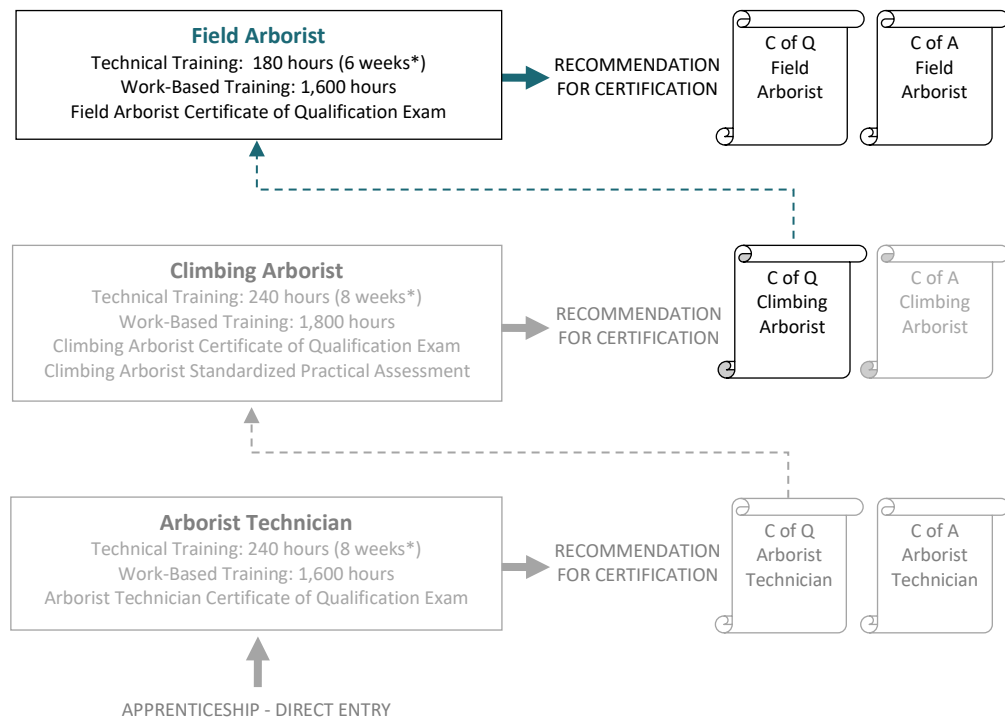
Individuals who wish to begin an apprenticeship in this program must register with SkilledTradesBC along with their sponsor. Application forms are available from the SkilledTradesBC website. Online registration is also available for most programs through the SkilledTradesBC website.

Those who wish to challenge the Field Arborist certification must complete the Field Arborist 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 Field Arborist 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Field Arborist – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Field Arborist – Certificate of Apprenticeship
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SkilledTradesBC Registration Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agreement signed by the employer to sponsor the apprentice ▪ Climbing Arborist – Certificate of Qualification ▪ Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification
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Completion Requirements Certification as a Field Arborist is awarded upon successful completion of:

Requirement	Level of Achievement Required
Technical Training	Minimum of 70% in technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In-school: 180 hours (or 6 weeks*)
Field Arborist Certificate of Qualification Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum 70%
Work-Based Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,600 hours
Recommendation for Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommendation for certification signed by the Sponsor and an individual holding credentials eligible for sign-off authority

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

Program Duration	<p>Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 1 year to complete.</p> <p>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.</p>
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Sign-off Authority	<p>Credentials eligible to sign-off on the Recommendation for Certification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Field Arborist – Certificate of Qualification ▪ SkilledTradesBC-issued letter authorizing supervision and sign-off of apprentices in this occupation
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Challenging a Level The following levels of technical training can be challenged for advanced placement in this program:

Level	Prerequisites
None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A

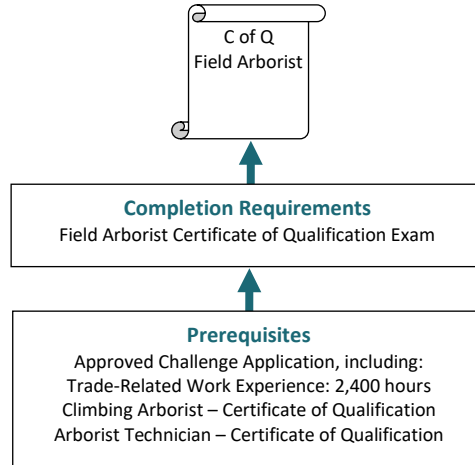
Cross-Program Credits Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are eligible to receive partial credit toward the completion requirements of this program:

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

Challenge Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Field Arborist 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

Field Arborist – Certificate of Qualification

SkilledTradesBC

Registration Prerequisites

An approved Challenge Application, which includes:

- 2,400 documented hours of directly related experience working as a Field Arborist
- Climbing Arborist – Certificate of Qualification
- Arborist Technician – Certificate of Qualification

Credit for Prior Learning

Individuals who hold credentials from the list below are considered to have met, or partially met, the prerequisites for challenging this program:

Credential	Credit(s) Granted
None	▪ N/A

Completion Requirements

Certification as a Field Arborist is awarded upon successful completion of:

Requirement	Level of Achievement Required
Field Arborist Certificate of Qualification Exam	▪ Minimum 70%

Supporting Documents

Field Arborist Program Outline (2013) – 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:	customerservice@skilledtradesbc.ca
Website:	www.skilledtradesbc.ca		

Revision History

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

Program Standards Approved: December 2012

Program Profiles are updated regularly. Visit www.skilledtradesbc.ca for the most current version.