



## **AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNICIAN**

---

### **Occupation Description**

“Automotive Service Technicians” possess the full range of knowledge and abilities required to perform preventative maintenance, diagnose problems and repair vehicle systems including engines, vehicle management, hybrids, steering, braking, tires, wheels, drivetrains, suspension, electrical, electronics, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), restraints, trim and accessories of automotive vehicles and light trucks with a gross vehicle weight less than 5,500 kg.

Automotive Service Technicians may be employed by automotive repair shops, dealerships, automotive specialty repair shops, large organizations that may own a fleet of vehicles and motor vehicle body repair companies.

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 Automotive Service Technician (AST) by completing the Automotive Service 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.

Foundation programs, where available, provide adults and youth who do not have work experience or employer sponsorship with an opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills needed to enter the occupation. Individuals who wish to enroll in a Foundation program must register directly with the training provider.

### **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, Apprenticeship & Workplace Math, or Trade Mathematics 11 and Applied Physics, or Science and Technology 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.

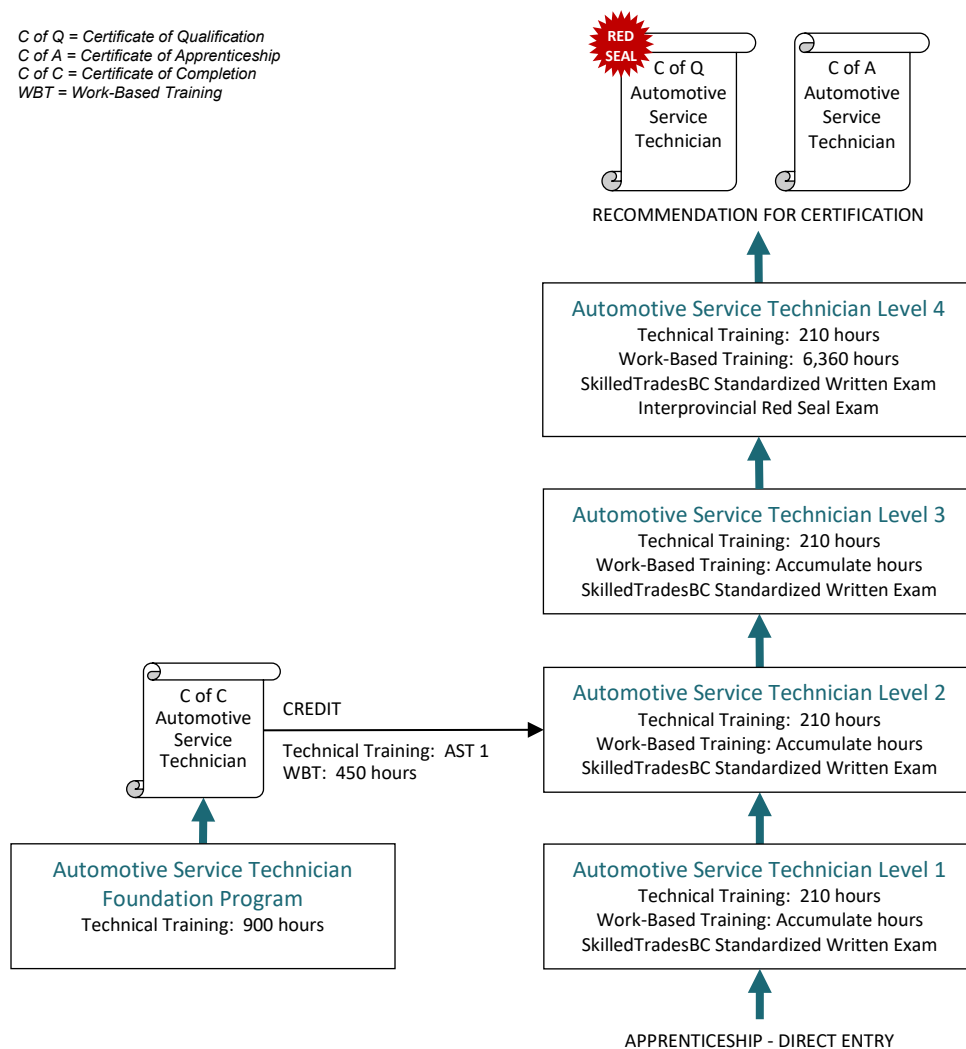
Those who wish to challenge the Automotive Service Technician (AST) certification must complete the BC Automotive Service Technician Challenge Application and submit it to SkilledTradesBC. Challenge applications are assessed for proof of workplace hours and scope of experience prior to acceptance of the individual into the Challenge pathway.



**Apprenticeship Pathway**

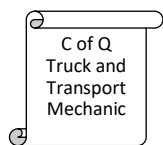
This graphic provides an overview of the Automotive Service Technician apprenticeship pathway.

C of Q = Certificate of Qualification  
C of A = Certificate of Apprenticeship  
C of C = Certificate of Completion  
WBT = Work-Based Training

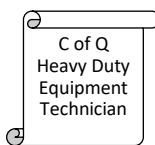


**CROSS-PROGRAM CREDITS**

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



Technical Training: None  
Work-Based Training: 1,590 hours\*



Technical Training: None  
Work-Based Training: 1,590 hours\*

*\*Individuals who are holders of both certificates will only be awarded credit for 1,590 WBT hours total*



**Apprenticeship Program Standards**

**Credentials Awarded**

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

**SkilledTradesBC  
Registration Prerequisites**

- Agreement signed by the employer to sponsor the apprentice

**Completion Requirements**

Certification as an Automotive Service Technician is awarded upon successful completion of:

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Level of Achievement Required</b>
Technical Training	Minimum 70% in each level of technical training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Level 1: 210 hours and SkilledTradesBC Standardized Written Exam</li> <li>▪ Level 2: 210 hours and SkilledTradesBC Standardized Written Exam</li> <li>▪ Level 3: 210 hours and SkilledTradesBC Standardized Written Exam</li> <li>▪ Level 4: 210 hours and SkilledTradesBC Standardized Written Exam</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>▪ 6,360 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>

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

**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:
- Automotive Service Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal Endorsement

**Challenging a Level**

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

- Level**
- Level 1
  - Level 2
  - Level 3



**Apprenticeship Program Standards**

**Cross-Program Credits**

Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are entitled to receive partial credit toward the completion requirements of AST 1

<b>Credential</b>	<b>Credit(s) Granted</b>
Heavy Duty Equipment Technician – Certificate of Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Technical Training: None</li> <li>▪ Work-Based Training: 1,590 hours*</li> </ul>
Truck and Transport Mechanic – Certificate of Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Technical Training: None</li> <li>▪ Work-Based Training: 1,590 hours*</li> </ul>

---

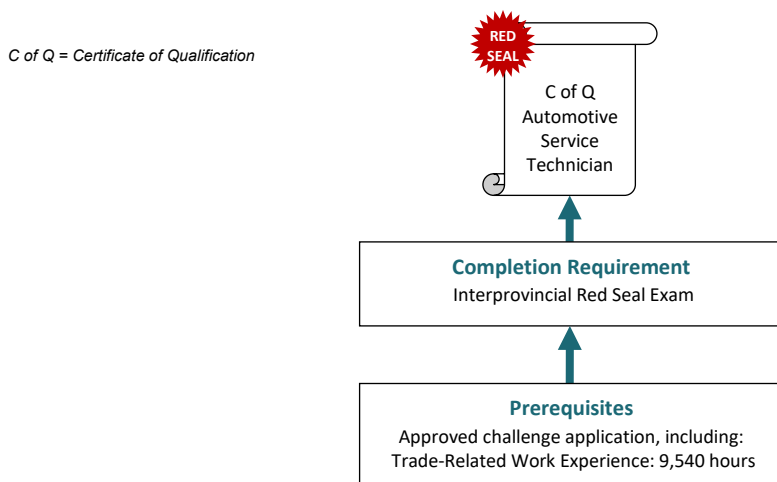
\*Individuals who are holders of both certificates will only be awarded credit for 1,590 WBT hours total.

---



### Challenge Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Automotive Service Technician challenge pathway.



**CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING**

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

Military certificate in Vehicle Technician MT #129 / #411, QL5 or higher

Work-Based Training: 9,540 hours

## Challenge Program Standards

**Credentials Awarded** Automotive Service Technician – Certificate of Qualification with Interprovincial Red Seal endorsement

**SkilledTradesBC Registration Prerequisites** An approved Challenge Application, which includes:

- 9,540 documented hours of directly related experience working in the occupation

**Credit for Prior Learning** Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are considered to have met or partially met the requirements for challenging this program.

Credential	Credit(s) Granted
Military certificate in Vehicle Technician MT #129 / #411, QL5 or higher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9,540 workplace hours</li> <li>Approved Challenge Application</li> </ul>

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

Requirement	Level of Achievement Required
Interprovincial Red Seal Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum 70%</li> </ul>



**Foundation Program**

Refer to the Apprenticeship pathway diagram for this program to see how the Automotive Service Technician Foundation program fits into apprenticeship.

**Foundation Program Standards**

<b>Credentials Awarded</b>	Automotive Service Technician - Certificate of Completion				
<b>Enrollment Pre-requisites</b>	Contact training provider. Prerequisites vary between training institutions.				
<b>Completion Requirements</b>	A Certificate of Completion in this program is awarded upon successful completion of: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Requirement</th> <th>Level of Achievement Required</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Technical Training</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 70%</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Requirement	Level of Achievement Required	Technical Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 70%</li> </ul>
Requirement	Level of Achievement Required				
Technical Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum 70%</li> </ul>				
<b>Program Duration</b>	Duration varies depending on how training is delivered, but the program generally takes 900 hours to complete.				
<b>Credit toward Apprenticeship</b>	Individuals who complete the Automotive Service Technician Foundation program will receive the following credit toward completion of the Automotive Service Technician apprenticeship program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Technical Training: Level 1</li> <li>▪ Work-based training: 450 hours</li> </ul>				



### Supporting Documents

Automotive Service Technician Program Outline (2016) – Defines the full scope of knowledge and skills required to competently perform the occupation in BC. Available from the SkilledTradesBC website.

Automotive Service Technician Red Seal Occupational Standard (2016) – 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:	September 2006
	June 2008
	November 2008
	January 2009
	July 2009
	May 2012
	July 2012
	December 2012
	February 2017
	April 2018
	July 2022

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