

FACTSHEET:

Temporary Authorization

Purpose

This factsheet applies to Trade Qualifiers and Uncertified Experienced Workers requiring temporary authorization to continue working in a Skilled Trades Certification trade.

NOTE: Where there is any conflict between this factsheet and the *Skilled Trades BC Act*, its regulations, or any other applicable legislation as amended from time to time, the provisions of the applicable legislation apply to the extent necessary to resolve that conflict.

Definitions

- **“Apprentice”** means a person who is registered as an apprentice in an apprenticeship program in a trade in British Columbia (B.C.), or a person who is registered as an apprentice in a similar program in another Canadian jurisdiction in accordance with the applicable legislation of that jurisdiction.
- **“Journeyperson”** means a person who holds a certificate of qualification awarded by SkilledTradesBC or who holds a related and valid journeyperson certificate or credential issued by another Canadian jurisdiction in accordance with the applicable legislation in that jurisdiction.
- **“Skilled Trades Certification trades”** or **“STC trades”** means trades designated as a skilled trades certification trade in the *Skilled Trades BC Act* and *Skilled Trades BC Regulation*, as amended from time to time.
- **“Temporary Authorization”** means a temporary authorization issued by SkilledTradesBC under the *Skilled Trades BC Act*. A Temporary Authorization is for the purpose of authorizing a person to work in B.C. in an STC trade for a specified period as outlined in the authorization.
- **“Trade Qualifier”** means a person who has demonstrated to the satisfaction of SkilledTradesBC that they have experience which meets the requirements included in the apprenticeship program’s standard pathway. This includes military applicants.
- **“Uncertified Experienced Worker”** means a person who has demonstrated to the satisfaction of SkilledTradesBC that they have at least 36,000 hours of work experience that meet the competencies included in the STC trade program profile.

1. Temporary Authorization

- 1.1. SkilledTradesBC may place terms and conditions on any Temporary Authorization issued.
- 1.2. SkilledTradesBC may consider approval of a Temporary Authorization before a trade is designated as an STC trade but will only issue the Temporary Authorization on or after the date the trade has been designated an STC trade.
- 1.3. Trade Qualifiers and Uncertified Experienced Workers may have one Temporary Authorization for each of the STC trades.

2. Temporary Authorization for Trade Qualifiers

- 2.1. Temporary Authorizations are issued automatically once an individual has been approved as a Trade Qualifier. For more information about qualifying as a Trade Qualifier, please refer to the Trade Qualifier Policy.
- 2.2. Temporary Authorizations for Trade Qualifiers are issued for a period of 24 months, unless specified otherwise.
- 2.3. Trade Qualifiers may be issued an automatic 12-month extension to the initial 24-month Temporary Authorization if they have not met all the requirements outlined in the Trade Qualifier Policy within the initial 24-month period.
- 2.4. Once a Trade Qualifier becomes a Journeyperson or a registered Apprentice with SkilledTradesBC in an STC trade, they are no longer required to have a Temporary Authorization for that STC trade.

3. Temporary Authorization for Uncertified Experienced Workers

- 3.1. SkilledTradesBC may issue a Temporary Authorization to an Uncertified Experienced Worker for a maximum term of up to five years from the date the trade is designated as an STC trade and may include terms and conditions which also apply for the full term of the Temporary Authorization unless specified otherwise.
- 3.2. Temporary Authorizations are issued automatically once an individual has been approved as an Uncertified Experienced Worker. For more information about qualifying as an Uncertified Experienced Worker, please refer to the Uncertified Experienced Worker Policy.

4. Reviews and Appeals

- 4.1. Individuals dissatisfied with the outcome of their Temporary Authorization may request a review of SkilledTradesBC's decision or order on the grounds for review that are set out in the *Minister's Skilled Trades BC Regulation*, as amended from time to time.
- 4.2. The Request for Review **must be made within 30 days** of receiving SkilledTradesBC's decision or order. For more information refer to SkilledTradesBC's Request for Review Policy.

If you have any questions about this factsheet, please contact SkilledTradesBC Customer Service at: [778-328-8700](tel:778-328-8700) or toll free in BC: [1-866-660-6011](tel:1-866-660-6011) or by email at: customerservice@skilledtradesbc.ca.

Date Approved: October 3, 2023

Last Updated: December 16, 2025