

What is Apprenticeship?

September 2022

Apprenticeship is a process of skills training where a person – called an “apprentice” – learns the skills of a trade while on the job and working under the supervision of an expert – called a “journeyperson.”

Apprenticeship training combines on-the-job training with theoretical and practical technical training. The apprentice spends the majority of their time learning the knowledge and skills of the trade on the job, while earning a wage. Depending on the trade, about once per year the apprentice spends from six to 10 weeks learning skills in a technical institute. This reinforces the knowledge and skills taught on the job. Apprentices must experience the broad range of skills in the trade, work the prescribed number of hours on the job, and successfully complete all levels of technical training, before being eligible to write the journeyperson examination.

The apprentice must pass the journeyperson exam with at least 70 per cent to receive a “Journeyperson Certificate of Qualification.” The majority of the trades and subtrades in Saskatchewan are designated as “Red Seal” Interprovincial (IP) trades. The certificate of a journeyperson in an IP trade is recognized across the country.

To get started in apprenticeship training, find an employer who agrees to hire you in your chosen trade and who will train you under the supervision of a journeyperson. An apprenticeship application must then be submitted with the employer to the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission (SATCC) through [MyATC](#).

When you’ve met the required number of hours of work - or trade time - for your trade, self-register for technical training in [MyATC](#). Apprenticeship training ranges from one to four years, depending on the trade.

Apprenticeship training is the hands-on way to build a career in the skilled trades. You learn a trade while you earn a living, so there is little education-related debt. A journeyperson certificate is the foundation for many career opportunities from manager to instructor to entrepreneur.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- You must be working in a trade in order to qualify for apprenticeship training.
- Grade 12 (with no modified classes) or a GED 12 guarantees you meet the educational entrance requirements for apprenticeship in Saskatchewan.
- Previous education, training and work experience may qualify you for advanced standing in apprenticeship training.
- Apprenticeship means you spend 85% learning on-the-job and 15% learning in school.
- As you learn on the job, you earn a wage.
- When you have successfully completed the apprenticeship program, have the required work experience, and have passed the certification examination, you receive a Certificate of Completion of Apprenticeship and a Journeyperson Certificate of Qualification.
- A Journeyperson Certificate with a Red Seal Endorsement (RSE) is recognized across Canada through the Interprovincial Standards Red Seal program. RSE can then be used as a credential (e.g. Jane Doe, RSE).



saskapprenticeship.ca



SKILLED TRADE	TRAINING		LOCATION		SKILLED TRADE	TRAINING		LOCATION	
	On-the-job YR HR	In-school WKS per YR/YRS				On-the-job YR HR	In-school WKS per YR/YRS		
Agriculture, Tourism & Service Sector									
Cook (IP) Prepares food and meals; performs meat cutting; learns basic baking and pastry cooking	3	5,400	Hybrid-combination online and in class 8 wks/3 yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon	Hairstylist (IP)** (must complete an accredited pre-employment training program and obtain a Learner's Certificate from the SATCC to work in trade) Shampoos, cuts, styles and chemically alters hair; performs related skills in retail and customer service	2	3,600 less pre-employment	Approved training program by the SATCC	Sask Polytech - Prince Albert Private schools
Esthetician - Nail Technician Performs manicures, pedicures, cosmetic massage and artificial nail applications or enhancements	2	3,600 less technical training	Approved pre-employment programs or individual courses	Sask Polytech - Prince Albert Private schools	Landscape Horticulturist (IP) Grows plants; operates greenhouses, nurseries and garden centres; landscapes	4	6,000	8 wks/4 yrs	University of Saskatchewan - Online Option Olds College - Olds, Alberta
Esthetician - Skin Care Technician Performs specialized body/facial treatments, corrects skin problems, make-up artistry, cosmetic massage, hair removal, lash/brow tinting, manicures/pedicures	2	3,600 less technical training	Approved pre-employment programs or individual courses	Sask Polytech - Prince Albert Private schools	Locksmith Evaluates and advises customers of security and access needs; installs, services and modifies locks, safes and alarm systems	4	7,200	8 wks/3 yrs	Red Deer College - Red Deer, Alberta
Food and Beverage Person Sells and serves food and beverages; prepares alcoholic/non-alcoholic beverages	2	3,600	Work site	Tourism Saskatchewan	Meat Cutter Endorsements: Slaughterer, Processor	3	5,400	inactive	to be determined
Guest Services Representative Promotes, sells and books accommodation products and services	2	3,600	Work site	Tourism Saskatchewan	Includes carcass breaking, primal cuts, sub-primal cuts, counter-ready cuts, packaging and labelling, and the merchandizing of meat and poultry	1	1,800		
Motive Repair Sector									
Agricultural Equipment Technician (IP) Sets up, repairs and services agricultural equipment	4	7,200	8 wks/4 yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon	Heavy Duty Equipment Technician (IP) Services and overhauls large mobile equipment used in construction, mining, forestry and other industries	4	7,200	8 wks/4yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon
Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Technician Repairs and inspects all types of aircraft and avionics systems	4	7,200	9 wks/4 yrs	Stevenson Aviation and Aerospace Training Centre - Red River College, Winnipeg and Southport, Manitoba	Parts Technician (IP) Orders, stocks and dispenses parts and assemblies for the automotive, mechanical, service and agricultural industries	3	5,400	Online all levels 8 wks/2 yrs & 6 wks/1 yr	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon
Auto Body and Collision Technician (IP) Services and refinishes motor vehicle bodies and frames Subtrade: - Automotive Refinishing Technician (IP) Appraises and refinishes motor vehicle bodies	4	7,200	6 wks/2 yrs & 7 wks/2 yrs	Sask Polytech - Regina, Saskatoon	Recreation Vehicle Service Technician (IP) Services and overhauls motor homes, travel trailers, van conversions and licensed towables	3	4,800	8 wks/3 yrs	SAIT - Calgary, Alberta
Automotive Service Technician (IP) Services and repairs automobiles, light trucks and buses	4	7,200	8 wks/4 yrs	Sask Polytech - Moose Jaw, Saskatoon	Truck and Transport Mechanic (IP) Maintains and inspects motorized trucks, buses and road transport vehicles	4	7,200	8 wks/4 yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon
Production & Maintenance Sector									
Electronics Assembler Assembles, repairs and tests circuit boards and other electronic components	2	3,600	3 wks/2 yrs	to be determined	Metal Fabricator (Fitter) (IP) Lays out, fabricates, cuts and assembles structural steel, plate and miscellaneous metals	3	5,400	8 wks/3 yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon
Instrumentation and Control Technician (IP) Maintains, diagnoses, calibrates and repairs control instruments in commercial and industrial settings	4	6,800	10 wks/4yrs	Sask Polytech - Moose Jaw	Welder (IP) Prepares and joins metals and plastics together using various welding methods/equipment	3	5,400	7 wks/2 yrs & 8 wks/1 yr	Sask Polytech - Moose Jaw, Saskatoon Sask Indian Inst of Tech - Regina, Saskatoon
Machinist (IP) Works with metals; operates metal-cutting and shaping machinery	4	7,200	8 wks/3 yrs & 6 wks/1 yr	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon	Subtrade: - Semiautomatic Welding Production Operator Works in manufacturing facilities, primarily with wire-feed processes	2	3,600	8 wks/1 yr	Sask Polytech

* A compulsory trade in which the individual must be either an apprentice or a journeyperson to work.

** A trade in which the individual must complete a pre-employment training program and obtain a license from the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission before beginning work.

(IP) indicates an interprovincial trade examination is either available or under development.

SKILLED TRADE		TRAINING		LOCATION		SKILLED TRADE		TRAINING		LOCATION	
		On-the-job YR HR	In-school WKS per YR/YRS					On-the-job YR HR	In-school WKS per YR/YRS		
Construction Sector											
Boilermaker (IP) Makes and assembles dust, gas, steam, oil, water or other liquid-tight containers, structures, and equipment	3	5,400	8 wks/3 yrs	Red River Community College - Winnipeg, Manitoba		Mobile Crane Operator (IP) Operates many types of hoisting equipment to move, place and position items Contact the Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission for more information	3	5,400	8 wks/2 yrs & 2 wks/1 yr	Western Trade Training Institute	
Bricklayer (IP) Lays concrete block, brick, pre-cut stone to construct or repair structures	4	6,000	8 wks/3 yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon		<u>Subtrades:</u> - Boom Truck Operator "A" Operates boom trucks over 15.5 tons	2	3,000	8 wks/1 yr & 1 wk/1 yr		
Cabinetmaker (IP) Constructs, repairs, finishes and installs cabinets, furniture, bedroom suites and architectural millwork, such as custom shelving components, paneling and interior trims	4	6,400	8 wks/4 yrs	NAIT - Edmonton, Alberta SAIT - Calgary, Alberta		- Boom Truck Operator "B" Operates boom trucks up to and including 15.5 tons	2	2,000	8 wks/1 yr & 1 wk/1 yr		
Carpenter (IP) Constructs, renovates and repairs buildings and structures made of wood and other materials	4	7,200	7 wks/4 yrs or alternate delivery	Sask Polytech - Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon Sask Indian Inst of Tech		Painter and Decorator (IP) Applies paint, varnish and wallpaper to interior and exterior building surfaces, and to other fittings and furnishings	3	5,400	8 wks/3 yrs	Prairie Trades Training Centre - Edmonton, Alberta	
<u>Subtrades:</u> - Framer Lays out, constructs and erects floor, wall and roof framing systems to the sheathed stage; installs exterior doors and windows	1	1,800	7 wks/2 yrs	Sask Polytech - Moose Jaw		Plumber (IP)* Installs, replaces and maintains water and sewage systems in residential, commercial and industrial buildings; may be licensed as gasfitters	4	7,200	8 wks/2 yrs & 7 wks/2 yrs	Sask Polytech - Regina, Saskatoon	
- Scaffolder Lays out, assembles, erects, uses, maintains and dismantles scaffold including access scaffolds, shoring, falsework, bleachers, and stages	4	6,000	3 wks/4 yrs	Prairie Arctic Trades Training Centre - Regina, Saskatoon		Powerline Technician (IP) Constructs and maintains overhead and underground power lines and related equipment	4	7,200	Online & 12 days/1 yr. 10 days/1 yr, 12 days/1 yr & 10 days/1 yr	Southeast College - Weyburn	
Construction Craft Labourer (IP) Prepares, cleans up construction sites, moves earth, places concrete structures and municipal lines	2	2,400	4 wks/2 yrs	Sask Polytech - Moose Jaw, Regina		Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic (IP)* Installs and maintains primary and secondary refrigeration and cooling systems in commercial and industrial settings; may be licensed as gasfitters	4	7,200	8 wks/4 yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon	
Construction Electrician (IP)* Installs, repairs, tests and maintains wiring, controls, motors and other electrical devices in both the industrial and construction sectors	4	7,200	8 wks/4 yrs	Sask Polytech - Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina Sask Indian Inst of Tech		Roofer (IP) Installs and maintains built-up roofs, flat deck roofs, steep roofs and other roofs with a variety of covering materials	3	4,500	Work site/ Distance 6 wks at own pace/1 yr	Prairie Arctic Trades Training Centre	
Glazier (IP) Cuts, prepares, fabricates and installs glass in residential, commercial and industrial buildings, furniture and vehicles	4	7,200	6 wks/4 yrs	SAIT - Calgary, Alberta		Sheet Metal Worker (IP)* Uses metal of 10 gauge or lighter to make and repair air and material handling products and building claddings	4	7,200	8 wks/4 yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon	
Industrial Mechanic (Millwright) (IP) Installs, maintains and repairs machinery in factories, mines and production facilities	4	7,200	8 wks/4 yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon Parkland College		Sprinkler Fitter (IP)* Installs, tests and repairs fixed fire suppression systems	4	7,200	8 wks/3 yrs	Red Deer College - Red Deer, Alberta	
Insulator (Heat and Frost) (IP) Maintains and applies thermal insulation to commercial and industrial structures and equipment	4	7,200	6 wks/2 yrs & 8 wks/1 yr	Heat & Frost Insulators Training Committee		Steamfitter-Pipefitter (IP) Installs and repairs low/high pressure piping systems and their components, including heating and processing applications; may be licensed as gasfitters	4	7,200	8 wks/2 yrs & 7 wks/2 yrs	Sask Polytech - Saskatoon	
Ironworker (Reinforcing) (IP) Fabricates, welds and installs rebar and materials used in reinforcing concrete	2	3,600	7 wks/2 yrs	Sask Polytech - Moose Jaw		<u>Subtrade:</u> - Petroleum Installer Technician Installs and maintains petroleum storage facilities	3	5,400	Correspondence 2 wks/3 yrs at own pace	SATCC	
Ironworker (Structural/Ornamental) (IP) Fabricates, welds, cuts, erects/dismantles structural steel and miscellaneous metal work; erects and places pre-cast concrete; performs rigging and places machinery	3	5,400	8 wks/2 yrs & 7 wks/1 yr	Sask Polytech - Moose Jaw		Tilessetter (IP) Works with tile, granite, slate, marble, terrazzo and similar materials	4	7,200	4 wks/3 yrs	Trowel Trades Training Association - Surrey, British Columbia	
Lather (Interior Systems Mechanic) (IP) Lays out, installs, applies, finishes and fabricates metal stud systems, thermal insulations, gypsum board and related products and specialized ceilings	4	6,000	8 wks/3 yrs	Level 1 and 2 - Prairie Arctic Trades Training Centre Level 3 - Prairie Arctic Technical Training Institute		Tower Crane Operator (IP) Operates mechanical devices or structures utilizing a vertical mast or tower and jib, which may be of the traveling, fixed or climbing types and incorporating a power-driven drum, boom and wire rope, to raise, lower and move material	2	3,000	8 wks/2 yrs	Western Trade Training Institute	

WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO BECOME AN APPRENTICE?

- Find an employer willing to provide the necessary on-the-job training and supervision.
- Submit an apprenticeship application with the employer through MyATC.
- Work and learn on the job for the required period of time.
- Submit your hours of work – trade time – through MyATC every few months.
- Self-register for technical training in MyATC when you've met the required number of hours for your trade.
- Pass your technical training.
- Upon successfully completing the apprenticeship program and passing the certification exam, the apprentice receives a Certificate of Completion of Apprenticeship and a Journeyperson Certificate of Qualification.

Congratulations, you are now a certified journeyperson!

WHAT EDUCATION DO I NEED TO BECOME AN APPRENTICE?

A Grade 12 transcript (with no modified classes) or a GED 12 guarantees an applicant meets the educational entrance requirements for apprenticeship in Saskatchewan. This ensures the individual has all of the necessary skills required to successfully complete the apprenticeship program, and receive journeyperson certification.

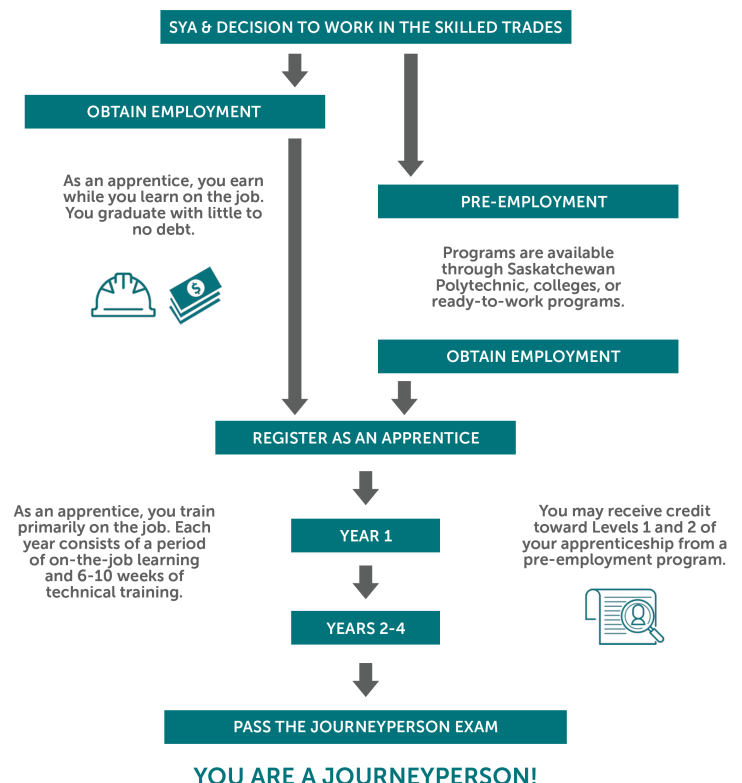
Individuals with "modified" or "general" classes in math or science do not meet our entry requirements.

A chart showing the minimum requirements, in math and science, can be viewed [on our website](#).

CAN PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE COUNT TOWARD MY APPRENTICESHIP?

You bet! If you have been involved in the Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship (SYA) Program, or another trades program through your high school, you may receive trade time hours in that trade when you register as an apprentice. Previous on-the-job work experience may be eligible too!

[Our website](#) provides information on how many trade time hours are recognized for high school programs and courses, including SYA, PAA and more. Contact an SATCC office in your area to learn more.



Saskatchewan Apprenticeship & Trade Certification Commission

Toll-free number: 1-877-363-0536

Email: apprenticeship@gov.sk.ca

Regional Offices:

Estevan
306-637-4930

Regina
306-787-2444

La Ronge
306-425-4385

Saskatoon
306-933-8476

Moose Jaw
306-694-3735

Swift Current
306-778-8945

North Battleford
306-446-7409

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