

Modernizing Apprenticeship Education and the Skilled Trades

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Teachers' Conventions 2024

Alberta



Apprenticeship
and Industry
Training

Agenda

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- What is Apprenticeship?
 - Education Credentials
 - Pathways Beyond Apprenticeship
 - How You Can Help

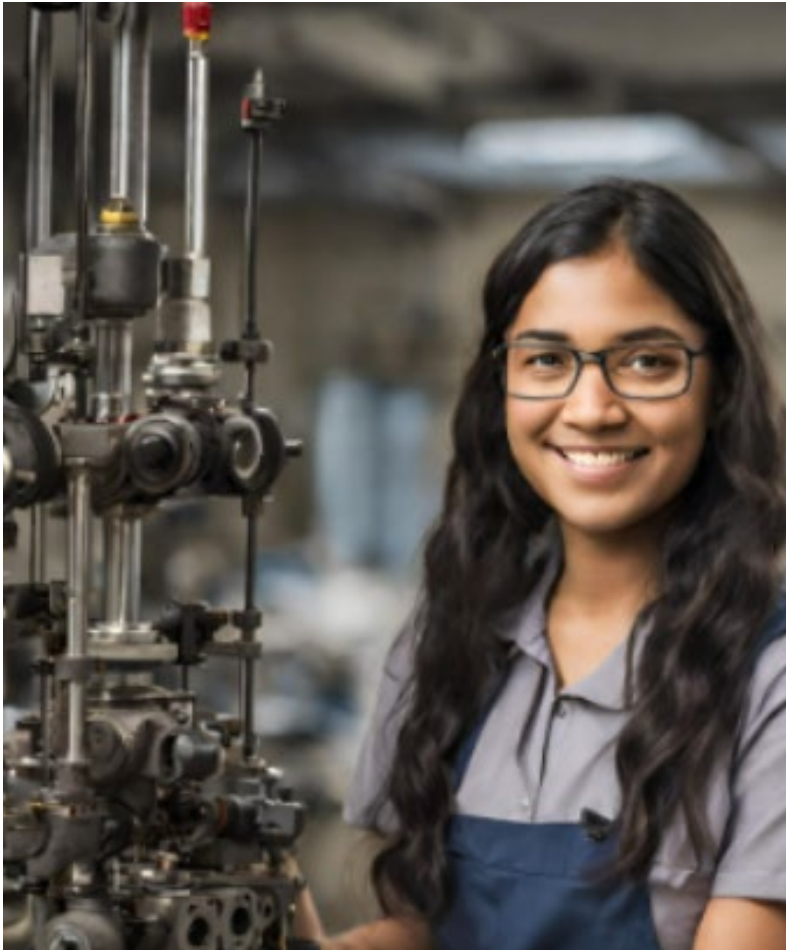
What is Apprenticeship?

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Adina – Student Example

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- Academically driven and highly focused.
- Excelled in advanced-level high school sciences and math.
- Favorite class was Career Education-- Mechanics, a departure from her expected path.
- Friends and high school mentors urged her to explore STEM career options.
- Family is adamant about focusing solely on academics and university.
- Adina's desire to continue with the skilled trades challenges family and social expectations.

We'll hear more about her journey later...

What is Apprenticeship?

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Alberta offers 47 Apprenticeship Education Programs, ranging in length from 1 to 4 years.

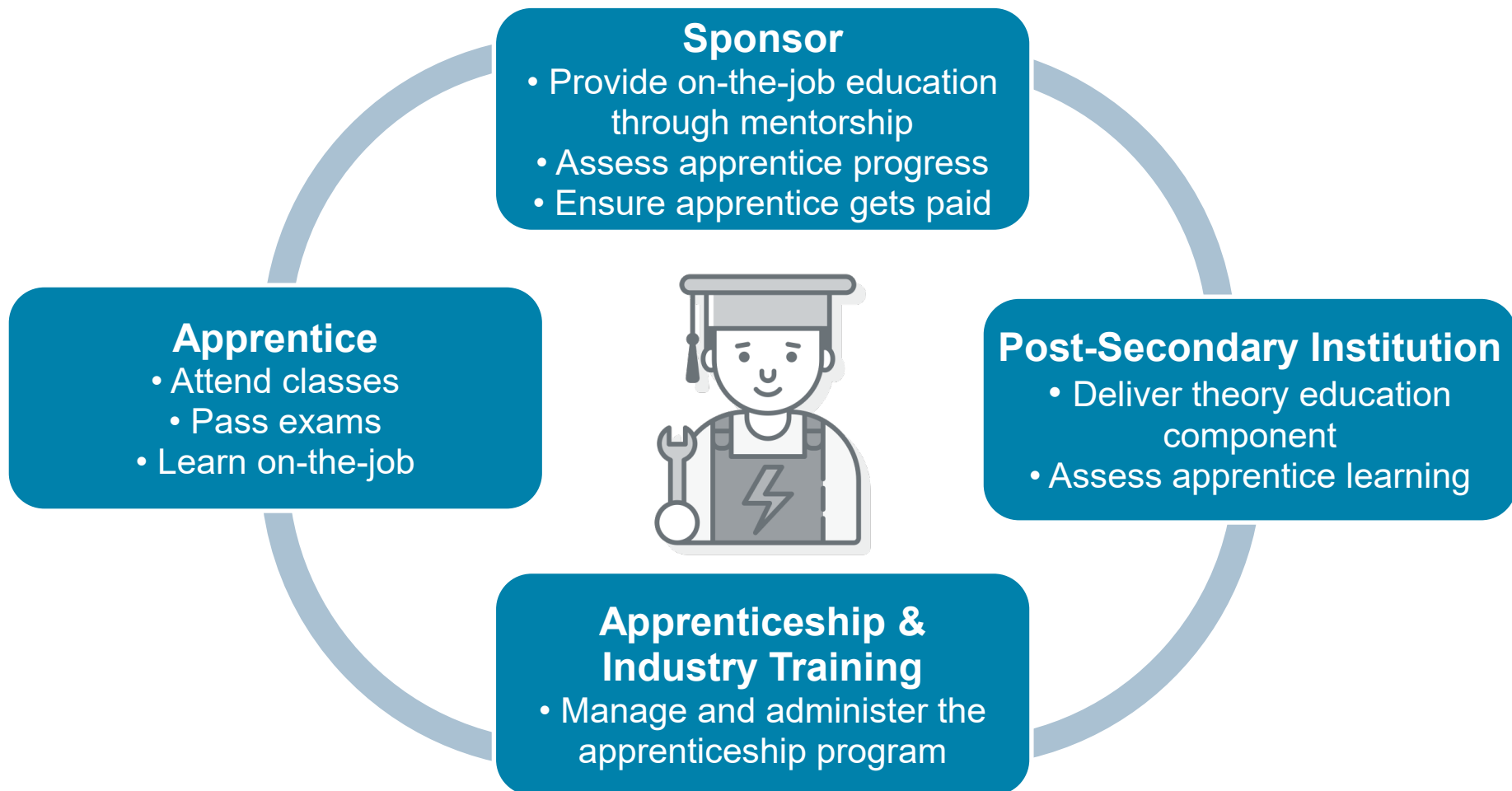
80%
on-the-job

20%
at a college or
polytechnic
institute

Earn a post-
secondary credential
and qualify for
journey person
certification.

Apprenticeships are a Partnership

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Apprenticeship and K-12 Competencies

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- K-12 system competencies are carried into the post-secondary system and continually developed.
- Apprenticeship is post-secondary education for the real world that leverages and further develops core competencies.

CRITICAL THINKING

COMMUNICATION

PROBLEM SOLVING

COLLABORATION

MANAGING INFORMATION

CULTURAL AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION

PERSONAL GROWTH AND WELL-BEING

Government Focus

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Our focus is on increasing...



Awareness

Parity of Esteem

Accessibility

...for apprenticeship education and the skilled trades.

BIG NEWS



Education Credentials

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Education Credentials - Previously

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- Historically, Alberta linked apprenticeship education and license to work in the skilled trades.

This was your
education
credential



This was also
your license to
work

- This certificate was not consistently recognized as an academic credential by post-secondary institutions.

Education Credentials

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- Since July 2022, apprenticeship program graduates have received education credentials **in addition** to journeyperson certificates.

Education Credential

- Confirms post-secondary learning achievement.
- Reflects the length and complexity of the program.

Journeyperson Certificate

- Authorizes unsupervised work in the full scope of the trade anywhere in Alberta.
- Is issued when someone meets Alberta's certification standards.

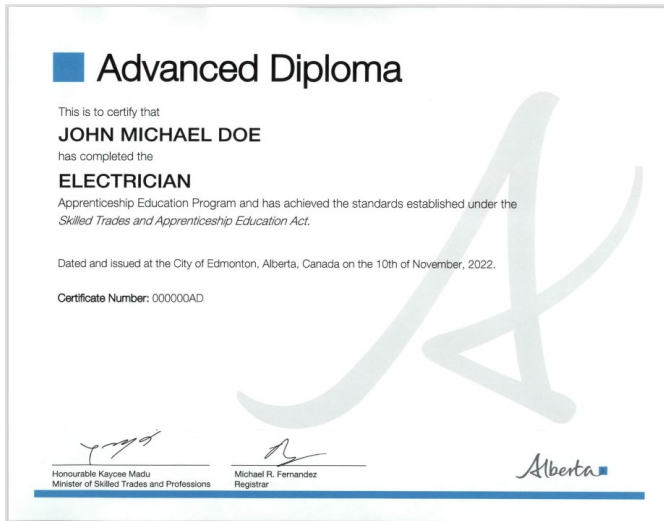
Apprenticeship Credentials

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Credential	Typical Duration
Certificate (Apprenticeship)	2-3 years
Diploma (Apprenticeship)	3-4 years
Advanced Diploma (Apprenticeship)	4 years

Education Credentials - Today

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- Education credential
 - Certificate, Diploma or Advanced Diploma



- License to work
 - Journeyperson Certificate

Post Secondary Education

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Alberta Credential Framework (ACF) – At a Glance

Purpose

To foster post-secondary system coherence by naming and defining Alberta credentials in a comprehensive structure.

Background

A post-secondary credential framework across the province supports a high-quality college and university sector. A clearly defined structure of recognized credentials makes qualifications transparent for learners and enables flexibility and transferability between educational and occupational fields. The ACF's scope is ministry-approved post-secondary credentials and journeyman certificates within Alberta.

Key Considerations

The ACF facilitates learner pathways, promotes educational quality and credential recognition, and fosters system coordination and accountability. The framework is a compilation of the Canadian Degree Qualifications Framework integrated with other Alberta government endorsed post-secondary credentials.

Each credential is described using two main organizational categories: credential descriptors and credential standards. For degree level credentials, descriptors are drawn from the Canadian Degree Qualifications Framework.

The Alberta Credentials Framework enhances, reduces, and combines credentials in several ways:

- Post-basic certificates and diplomas, as well as applied degrees, are "retired" and replaced by other credentials.
- Several credentials have been renamed to clarify their level of study.
- Three types of certificates and university certificates have been harmonized and consolidated into one credential.
- A separate section has been created for apprenticeship credentials, and these have had credits assigned to them.

The Alberta Credentials Framework identifies 13 post-secondary credentials under the *Post-secondary Learning Act (PSLA)* and 3 credentials under the *Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act (STAEA)*.

Alberta Credential Framework (by level of study)

UNDERGRADUATE CREDENTIALS (PSLA)

Credential Name	Typical Duration	Standard Credits
Certificate	1 year or less	12-32
Post-Diploma Certificate	1 year or less	18-30
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate	8-15 months	24-36
Diploma	2-3 years	60-80
Bachelor's Degree	3-4 years	90-120

GRADUATE CREDENTIALS (PSLA)

Credential Name	Typical Duration	Standard Credits
Graduate Certificate	Up to 1 year (2-3 semesters)	12-36 (minimum 12)
Graduate Diploma	1-2 years	Minimum 18
Master's Degree	1-3 years (2-6 semesters)	Variable
Post-Master's Certificate	1 year or less	Minimum 12
Post-Master's Diploma	1-2 years	Minimum 18
Doctoral Degree	3-6 years	Variable
Post-Doctoral Certificate	1 year or less	Minimum 12
Post-Doctoral Diploma	1.5 years or less	Variable

APPRENTICESHIP CREDENTIALS (STAEA)

Credential Name	Typical Duration	Standard Credits
Certificate	2-3 years	30-59
Diploma	3-4 years	60-80
Advanced Diploma	4 years	Over 80

APPRENTICESHIP CREDENTIALS (STAEA)

Credential Name	Typical Duration	Standard Credits
Certificate	2-3 years	30-59
Diploma	3-4 years	60-80
Advanced Diploma	4 years	Over 80

Pathways Beyond Apprenticeship

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- Apprenticeship education is often misunderstood as an academic dead end, with few pathways to further education or career growth.
- As a result, educators, students and parents can overlook or are never introduced to apprenticeship education as an option.
- Apprenticeship is one form of work-integrated learning.

Apprenticeship is a Foundation

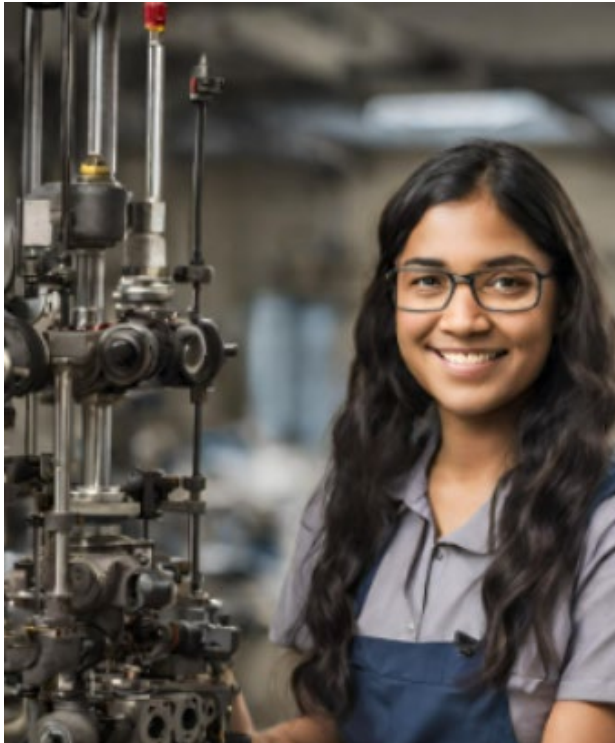
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- Apprenticeship is a foundation for a wide range of careers and further education.
- Skills learned in apprenticeships are foundational and transferable to various roles and industries.
- Apprenticeships instill a work ethic and problem-solving mindset valuable in any career.



Adina's Apprenticeship Opportunity

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Examples of learning opportunities through apprenticeship:

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

- Face complex issues on job sites, strengthen your creative approach.
- Develop strong analytical and problem-solving skills through hands-on experience.

Managing Information

- Manage vast amounts of technical knowledge and apply it to diagnose and resolve real-world issues.

Communication, Collaboration and Personal Growth

- Learn how to effectively communicate and collaborate to achieve goals

Existing Pathways

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- **NAIT - Trades to Degrees**

Enter into the third year of a Bachelor of Business Administration degree

- **U of A - Bridge to Teacher**

Up to 30 credits granted towards Bachelor of Education degree



Potential Future Pathways

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Electrician Apprenticeship → Electrical Engineering Technologist

Steamfitter-Pipefitter Apprenticeship → Power Engineering Technologist

Heavy Equipment Technician Apprenticeship → Supply Chain Professional

Agricultural Equipment Technician Apprenticeship → Agri-sales & Customer Relations Specialist

Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic Apprenticeship → Mechanical Engineering Technologist

How You Can Help

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Get excited!

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- Apprenticeship education can lead to numerous opportunities in life, which makes apprenticeship more attainable and desirable.
- CTS/CTF and work-integrated learning provides real-world skills and experience.
- It is possible to dispel myths about apprenticeship education and the skilled trades.
- Be aware that we are expanding the apprenticeship model outside the trades.

Get Involved - Teachers

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- Continue to share your passion for career and technology studies opportunities.
- Promote the value of apprenticeship education and the skilled trades to students who may want to pursue this route but may be discouraged by parents or peers.
- Spread the word to other educators and influencers about the world of opportunity that apprenticeship education credentials are creating.
- Visit www.Tradesecrets.alberta.ca to get Resources for Teachers.
- Share our handout and presentation.
- Reach out to us! STAE.Act@gov.ab.ca



Thank you!



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Share your thoughts with us: STAE.Act@gov.ab.ca

