YOU’VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES

Build your future in trades
CHASE IT.
OWN IT.
LIVE IT.
DO SOMETHING YOU LOVE
MAKE GOOD MONEY
BE PART OF A COMMUNITY
No two trades are exactly alike: each one requires a special set of skills and offers different opportunities. ITA can help you get the skills and experience you need to build an exciting future in trades.
ITA can help you find it.

ITA stands for the *Industry Training Authority*. Sounds fancy, but it's simple. ITA's job is to help you succeed in trades. This guide will help you discover what trade might suit you best.

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THE BUILDER

ATHLETIC

COLLABORATIVE

MATHEMATICAL

PRECISE

TACTILE

You're the kind of person who can see the big picture, but digs the details. You're equally comfortable manoeuvring big, heavy objects and calculating measurements down to the millimetre. Pushing paper at a desk behind the scenes holds little appeal to you. You'd rather be on a shop floor transforming raw materials into something useful, or on a job site working alongside other tradespeople to bring a project to life.

Sound like you? Consider one of these trades:

IRONWORKER
Work on the factory floor shaping steel and creating steel parts or in the field building, demolishing, repairing and maintaining steel structures, including buildings, towers, cranes and bridges.

CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIAN
Install and repair highly sensitive electrical and electronic systems in hard-to-reach places to keep the lights on, the fridge running and the music pumping in buildings of all shapes and sizes.

SHEET METAL WORKER
Use computerized lasers and sophisticated welding and soldering equipment to cut, bend and shape this lightweight material into heating vents, building siding and more.

Or what about:

Aircraft Structural Technician
Architectural Sheet Metal Worker
Boilermaker
Bricklayer
Cabinet Maker
Carpenter
Concrete Finisher
Construction Craft Worker
Domestic/Commercial Gasfitter
Drywall Finisher
Floor Covering Installer

Glazier
Insulator (Heat & Frost)
Lather (Interior Systems Mechanic)
Machinist
Metal Fabricator
Piledriver & Bridgeworker
Residential Steep Roofer
Roofing
Tilesetter
Tool & Die Maker
Welder

Are you a Builder? Learn more at YOUTH.ITABC.CA
You love a good puzzle—the bigger the challenge, the better. Once you have a general sense of how the parts in a system work together, you have no problem applying that knowledge in all sorts of situations. A tinkerer at heart, trial and error is your specialty. You’re like a detective, carefully weighing the evidence and piecing together clues to zero in on the culprit and solve the case.

**THE ANALYZER**

- Agile
- Independent
- Inquisitive
- Logical
- Persistent

You love a good puzzle—the bigger the challenge, the better. Once you have a general sense of how the parts in a system work together, you have no problem applying that knowledge in all sorts of situations. A tinkerer at heart, trial and error is your specialty. You’re like a detective, carefully weighing the evidence and piecing together clues to zero in on the culprit and solve the case.

**Sound like you? Consider one of these trades:**

**REFRIGERATION & AIR CONDITIONING MECHANIC**
Not too hot, not too cold, but just right. Your job is all about keeping people and products comfortable by installing, maintaining and repairing industrial refrigeration and air conditioning systems.

**INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIAN**
An expert in all things electrical, you’re the person people call to install, inspect and repair everything from motors, generators and pumps to lighting and communication systems in industrial plants and factories.

**INSTRUMENTATION & CONTROL TECHNICIAN**
You’re at home in an industrial setting adjusting and maintaining the equipment that plant operators depend on to control the flow, pressure and temperature of liquids, gases and other materials.

Or what about:

- Electric Motor Systems Technician
- Gasfitter
- Locksmith
- Petroleum Equipment Installer
- Plumber
- Power Line Technician
- Security Systems Technician
- Sprinkler System Installer
- Steamfitter/Pipefitter

Are you an Analyzer? Learn more at YOUTH.ITABC.CA
You were born for the driver’s seat. When the dashboard lights up and the engine roars to life, so do you. Cool under pressure, confident in your movements and always eager to strike out on a new path, you’re at your best when you’re behind the wheel. You were first in line to get your driver’s licence when you turned 16. Now it’s time to flex your skills off the road and master something new.

**CALM**
**CAREFUL**
**CONFIDENT**
**COORDINATED**
**DECISIVE**

Sound like you? Consider one of these trades:

**HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR**
Move earth and rock at a construction site, excavate ore from a mine or clear brush and stumps for new roads from the cab of your backhoe, grader or other piece of heavy equipment.

**MOBILE CRANE OPERATOR**
You’re a pro at setting up and operating cranes on wheels. On any given day, you could be moving materials from one spot to another at a construction site, in a shipyard or in an industrial space.

**RIG TECHNICIAN**
Work right on an oil and gas drilling rig, maintaining engines and equipment, getting new crew members up to speed and keeping operations running safely and smoothly.

**Or what about:**
- Asphalt Paving/Laydown Technician
- Boom Truck Operator
- Embalmer
- Tower Crane Operator
- Water Well Driller

Are you an Operator? Learn more at YOUTH.ITABC.CA
You’re the kind of person who likes to understand what makes things tick. You love taking stuff apart, swapping in new parts and putting it all back together—whether it’s a toaster, a car or a computer. When something stops working, your instinct is to fix it instead of throwing it away. You’re like a doctor, running tests and taking stock of the symptoms to diagnose the problem and find a cure.

THE FIXER

ANALYTICAL
DEXTEROUS
MECHANICAL
RESOURCEFUL
SYSTEMATIC

You’re the kind of person who likes to understand what makes things tick. You love taking stuff apart, swapping in new parts and putting it all back together—whether it’s a toaster, a car or a computer. When something stops working, your instinct is to fix it instead of throwing it away. You’re like a doctor, running tests and taking stock of the symptoms to diagnose the problem and find a cure.

Sound like you? Consider one of these trades:

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
Plying machines are your specialty. You’re an ace at interpreting technical drawings and blueprints, removing defective parts and installing replacements and testing and troubleshooting aircraft systems.

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNICIAN
You spend most days with your head under the hood, using computerized equipment and your wits to test, adjust and repair the interconnected parts and systems that make cars and trucks go.

INDUSTRIAL MECHANIC (MILLWRIGHT)
Install, repair and maintain all kinds of machines in all kinds of places—from ski hills to mines and everywhere in between. Equal parts electrician, machinist, mechanic and plumber, you’re a true jack of all trades.

Or what about:

Appliance Service Technician
Automotive Glass Technician
Diesel Engine Mechanic
Heavy Duty Equipment Technician
Marine Mechanical Technician
Marine Service Technician
Motor Vehicle Body Repairer
Motorcycle Mechanic
Partsperson
Petroleum Equipment Service Technician
Recreational Vehicle Service Technician
Residential Building Maintenance Worker
Saw Filer
Transport Trailer Technician
Truck & Transport Mechanic

Are you a Fixer? Learn more at YOUTH.ITABC.CA
You’re a keen observer with a vivid imagination and the talent to deliver on it. Where some see clouds in the sky, you see faces. Where some see a white wall, you see a blank canvas. Where some see a vegetable garden or a cow, you see dinner. You have a knack for assessing what’s in front of you, visualizing the possibilities and transforming your creative vision into reality.

ATTENTIVE
CREATIVE
EXPRESSIVE
INVENTIVE
PRECISE

Sound like you? Consider one of these trades:

COOK
If you’ve got a nose for good food and love the adrenalin rush of a tight deadline, kitchen life is for you. You’ll work elbow to elbow in a team, devising and costing recipes and planning and preparing meals.

AUTOMOTIVE REFINISHING PREP TECHNICIAN
Your job is to keep the automotive refinishing process running smoothly by removing parts, sanding surfaces and getting rid of the grime to prime cars, trucks and buses for painting.

PAINTER & DECORATOR
Armed with paint chips and fabric swatches, you turn drab concrete structures into iconic landmarks, brighten aging buildings and convert boring white walls into works of art.

Or what about:

Automotive Painter
Baker
Dairy Production Technician
Funeral Director
Hair stylist
Meat cutter

Are you an Artisan? Learn more at YOUTH.ITAB.CA
You’re in your element in the great outdoors with the earth below you, nature around you and nothing but sky above you. Growing up, you were the fearless kid who was too busy climbing trees and examining bugs in the backyard to come inside for dinner. A natural green thumb, you have a gift for spotting unusual flowers, recognizing plants in distress and making things grow.

ADVENTUROUS CURIOUS NIMBLE OUTDOORSY VISUAL

Sound like you? Consider one of these trades:

ARBORIST TECHNICIAN
You know your oaks from your maples, and how to prune and protect all kinds of trees. On any given day, you might be chipping brush, cutting wood, assisting climbers or tidying up after a tree care operation.

HORTICULTURIST, LANDSCAPE
You put your love of greenery to good use, choosing, planting and pruning the trees and shrubs that bring life to our landscaped spaces—everything from public gardens to private golf courses.

UTILITY ARBORIST
When power lines go up—or come down—it’s your time to shine. You’re responsible for pruning and clearing vegetation to keep electrical equipment and structures safe from falling trees and climbing plants.

Or what about:

Climbing Arborist
Field Arborist
Horticulturist, Production

Are you an Outdoorist? Learn more at YOUTH.ITABC.CA
LIVE THE LIFE YOU WANT.

Earn a good living doing something you love. The trades offer endless opportunities for a mobile, flexible career that suits your unique interests. As a certified tradesperson, your skills are in high demand all over the world.

*Inspire others. Build your future. There’s a trade in you.*

**WHY CHOOSE TRADES?**
Hear from these young apprentices

**Carpenter**

**Joy Wosk**
19 years old, Vancouver, BC

My company is like a family. One of my former co-workers is now one of my closest friends. Whenever you meet someone who is also in the trades, you have an instant connection.

“I love knowing that I’m building a great career while I’m young.”
CHELSEA BARRON

22 years old, Langley, BC

I was always a hands-on learner and had a creative mind, so I knew that working in trades was a good fit for me. I like the feeling of accomplishing a goal and creating things.

“My future in trades excites me because the possibilities are huge.”

RICKY SANDHU

26 years old, Surrey, BC

I’m excited to be moving forward with my own business and seeing what other doors open for me. You can learn so much. You can go anywhere for training: you can go to London, England and Germany. You can go almost anywhere in the world and still be qualified.

“Starting my own business is something that I’ve always wanted to do.”
BUILD YOUR FUTURE

Enrol in an ITA Youth Trades Program

FIND THE RIGHT PROGRAM FOR YOU

No matter how young (or old) you are or how much (or little) you know about trades, there is an ITA Youth Trades Program to help you get started.
SPARK YOUR INTEREST IN TRADES WITH HANDS-ON TRADES ACTIVITIES

Youth Discover Programs will get you talking about trades. The programs vary from one day events with local tradespeople to regular classroom activities that incorporate trades thinking and skill building. You’ll learn about what a trade is and why trades are awesome!

Spark your interest in trades
Get hands-on experience in a trade at a Youth Discover the Trades event in your community. This exciting event connects you, your parents and your teachers with local tradespeople and their employers so you can see firsthand what a career in trades is really like.
*formerly named YES 2 IT

Get creative with hands-on trades activities
Scratch your head. Roll up your sleeves. Show off your skills. With Youth Discover the Maker Way, you get to put away your books and work in small teams to build a creative solution to a design challenge. This program can be offered as a one-day event, a unit in your class or as a year-long learning program.
*formerly named Maker Day

Lions in the House
This one-day event was created specifically for youth in grades six through nine to learn about the power of choice and opportunities in trades. Compete, cheer and get inspired by Youth Discover Lions in the House!

IS A YOUTH DISCOVER PROGRAM FOR YOU?
• You’re in grade 5–10
• You’re looking for an introduction to the trades

YOUR NEXT STEPS
• Ask your teacher if a Youth Discover Program is being offered at your school
• Help plan a Youth Discover the Trades event in your community

Learn more
YOUTH.ITABC.CA/PROGRAMS
YOUTH EXPLORE TRADES SKILLS

YOUTH EXPLORE TRADES SAMPLER

TRY OUT DIFFERENT TRADES AND BUILD YOUR SKILLS IN MULTIPLE TRADES

Youth Explore Programs let you try out different trades so you can figure out what trade you like best. There are two different Youth Explore Programs available.

Try out a few different trades

This program gives you hands-on experience in more than one trade. You’ll learn the basics, explore your interests and get a sense of what trade you want to pursue. From there, you can move onto one of the dual credit programs, such as the Youth Train in Trades Program or the Youth Work in Trades Program.

*formerly named Skills Exploration

In-depth way to build your skills in multiple trades

This program lets you explore multiple trades in greater depth. You’ll gain practical skills and can even complete certifications that trades employers are looking for. The Youth Explore Trades Sampler is a great way to prepare for an apprenticeship program such as the Youth Train in Trades Program or the Youth Work in Trades Program.

*new program

PROGRAM PATH

IS A YOUTH EXPLORE PROGRAM FOR YOU?

- You’re in grade 10–12
- You’re interested in trying out different trades
- You may have some trade experience already

YOUR NEXT STEPS

- Talk to your high school counsellor to see if a Youth Explore Program is offered in your area

Learn more

YOUTH.ITABC.CA/PROGRAMS
GET A HEAD START ON YOUR TECHNICAL TRADES TRAINING

Attend a trades training class at a local high school, a partner post-secondary institution or an ITA-certified training facility. You’ll learn from skilled instructors and earn credits that count towards your high school diploma and Level 1 of your technical trades training. Youth Train in Trades and Youth Work in Trades Programs can be taken in any order and there are no prerequisites.

*formerly named ACE IT

PROGRAM PATH

YOUTH TRAIN IN TRADES  YOUTH WORK IN TRADES  TRADE APPRENTICESHIP

IS THE YOUTH TRAIN PROGRAM FOR YOU?

• You’re in grade 11–12
• You found a trade that you like and want to learn more

YOUR NEXT STEPS

• Talk to your high school counsellor to see if a Youth Train Program is offered in your area

Learn more
YOUTH.ITABC.CA/PROGRAMS
GET ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AS A YOUTH APPRENTICE

Get ahead on the work-based training of a trade apprenticeship while you’re still in high school. Not only will you take home a pay cheque, you’ll earn up to 16 credits towards your high school diploma, log 480 training hours toward your trade credential and maybe even earn a $1,000 award. Youth Train in Trades and Youth Work in Trades programs can be taken in any order and there are no prerequisites.

*formerly named SSA

GET ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AS A YOUTH APPRENTICE

- Talk to your high school counsellor
- Connect with an ITA Apprenticeship Advisor in your area (see page 44)

PROGRAM PATH

YOUTH WORK IN TRADES  TRAde Aprenticeship

IS THE YOUTH WORK PROGRAM FOR YOU?

- You’re in grade 10–12
- You want to get on-the-job training in your trade

YOUR NEXT STEPS

- Talk to your high school counsellor
- Connect with an ITA Apprenticeship Advisor in your area (see page 44)

Learn more
YOUTH.ITABC.CA/PROGRAMS
A trade apprenticeship is how you gain the knowledge and skills you need for a career in your trade. Some ITA Youth Trades Programs let you try out different trades to find what trade you like best. Other programs help fulfill the hours you need to complete your trade apprenticeship. Most apprenticeships take about four years to complete. Yours might be longer or shorter depending on your trade, how many hours you work and the training you take in high school.

As a trade apprentice, you’ll spend part of your time in a classroom or shop, learning from a skilled trades instructor. The rest of the year, you’ll earn while you learn, working on a job site alongside experienced tradespeople. At the end of your trade apprenticeship, ITA will award you a trade credential or “ticket” that allows you to work in different places in BC, Canada or all over the world.
FIND AN EMPLOYER SPONSOR

On-the-job training is a critical part of your learning and one of the most rewarding aspects of an apprenticeship. Finding an employer who is willing to mentor and sponsor you will be one of the biggest challenges you face, but there are steps you can take to increase your chances of landing and keeping a job.

“We’re looking for young people who are interested in working and want to learn. Take pride in the fact that we show our apprentices the entire construction process—front foundation to interior finishing. They’ll have those skills.”

Graham Reid
South Delta, BC
Red Seal Carpenter
Founder and Owner of MP Construction Ltd.

“I get to work outdoors, use my hands and learn something new every week. The other carpenters are really good about explaining things and getting me involved—whether they’re putting in a window or framing up a wall.”

Connor Ayton, 16
South Delta, BC
First-Year Carpenter Apprentice

STEP 1
FIND OUT WHO’S HIRING

Search WorkBC’s Apprenticeship Job Match at workbc.ca to find companies that are looking for apprentices in your trade.

Contact your local Board of Trade, Chamber of Commerce or WorkBC centre to find smaller companies that may not always advertise jobs.

Go to local events like job fairs to connect with companies that hire your trade.

Let people know you’re looking for a job, including family members, their friends and other adults.

STEP 2
GET READY

Find out how to apply. Depending on the industry or company, you may submit an application online or show up at the job site.

Highlight relevant skills and experiences on your resume.

Do you have a First Aid Certificate? Did you take Woodworking 12? Do you regularly change the oil in your car?

Practise your pitch. Be ready to explain who you are and why you want to work for this company in particular.

STEP 3
GET THE JOB

Be professional. Dress suitably, use respectful language and make sure your email address and outgoing voicemail messages are work-appropriate.

Smile before you say hello on the phone. It changes your voice and gives a good first impression.

Keep a record of when and where you apply. That way, you can follow up later.

Don’t give up! It can take between 12 and 15 applications to get an interview or even to hear back.

STEP 4
START OFF RIGHT

Have a positive attitude. Be willing to begin at the bottom and work your way up.

Come prepared. Bring your lunch and any necessary tools or gear.

Find out the cellphone policy—and follow it.

Ask questions if you don’t understand the instructions.

Be ready to work overtime. Many trades don’t follow the clock.

Don’t stand around. If you’re finished the task you’re working on, tidy your workspace.

Talk to your supervisor if you have any concerns.

“ITA TRADES GUIDE”

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# Apprentice Program Listing

With over 100 apprentice programs in BC, you’ve got options.

| A | Aircraft Maintenance Technician | Architectural Sheet Metal Worker | Automotive Refinishing Prep Technician |
| B | Baker | Boom Truck Operator–Folding Boom Unlimited Tonnage | Bricklayer ( Mason) |
| C | Cabinetmaker | Carpenter | Construction Craft Worker (Labourer) Cook |
| D | Dairy Production Technician 1 | Diesel Engine Mechanic | Domestic/Commercial Geofitter (Class B) Drywall Finisher |
| E | Electric Motor Systems Technician | Electrician, Industrial | Embalmer and Funeral Director |
| F | Field Arborist | Floor Covering Installer | Funeral Director |
| G | Geofitter (Class A) | Geotechical Environmental Driller | Glazer |
| H | Heavy Duty Equipment Operator | Horticulturist Foundation | Horticulturist Production |
| I | Instrumentation and Control Technician | Insulator (Heat and Frost) | Ironworker Generalist |
| L | Asphalt Paving / Laydown Technician | Automotive Glass Technician | Automotive Painter |
| M | Architectural Sheet Metal Worker | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |
| P | Asphalt Paving / Laydown Technician | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |
| R | Boom Truck Operator–Unlimited Tonnage | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |
| S | Boom Truck Operator–Stiff Boom Unlimited Tonnage | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |
| T | Bricklayer ( Mason) | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |
| U | Climbing Arborist | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |
| V | Concrete Finisher | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |
| W | Construction Craft Worker (Labourer) Cook | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |
| X | Construction Craft Worker (Labourer) Cook | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |
| Y | Construction Craft Worker (Labourer) Cook | Automotive Service Technician | Automotive Service Technician |

For more information on how to get started, speak to your school counsellor or go online to learn more.

[www.youth.itabc.ca](http://www.youth.itabc.ca)
GET ANSWERS
ITA is here to help.

Who can tell me more about ITA Youth programs like Youth Train and Youth Work?

Who can explain the academic requirements for my trade?

Who can tell me if there is a Youth Train or Youth Work Program at my school?

Who can help me find the closest designated training provider for my trade?

Who can connect me with agencies and resources to help me find an employer sponsor?

How can I create a personal career plan?

WHO IS ITA?
It’s ITA’s job to answer your questions about trades training and certification, and issue your trade credentials, such as the Certificate of Qualification or Red Seal Endorsement when you finish your apprenticeship.

WHO IS ITA?

ITA’S YOUTH INITIATIVES ADMINISTRATOR
(778) 328-8700
TOLL-FREE 1-866-660-6011
youth@itabc.ca

YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

AN ITA APPRENTICESHIP ADVISOR
There are 15 ITA Apprenticeship Advisors around the province. Connect with one in your community to help you navigate your trades training.
Find one near you at itabc.ca/apprenticeship-advisors

WORKBC.CA/BLUEPRINTBUILDER

GET CONNECTED

instagram.com/ita_youth
twitter.com/ita_youth
facebook.com/IndustryTrainingAuthority
youtube.com/itabctradestraining
WHAT ARE YOU MADE OF?

YOUTH.ITABC.CA