

Production Horticulture: Apprenticeship

Faculty of Science and Horticulture	
kwantlen.ca/science	
School of Horticulture	
kwantlen.ca/hort	
IMPLEMENTATION DATE	START DATE(S)
01-Sep-2011	Varies
ADMISSION TYPE	ENROLMENT TYPE
Fixed term	Limited enrolment
PROGRAM TYPE	CREDENTIAL GRANTED
Vocational	No Credential
OFFERED AT	FORMAT
Langley	Full-time
HOW TO APPLY	
www.kwantlen.ca/admission	

DESCRIPTION

Horticulture Apprenticeship links learning and employment by providing apprentices the opportunity to further their education, while at the same time maintaining full-time employment in the horticulture industry.

Apprentices traditionally sign a registered indentureship agreement with a horticulture employer who is committed to practical on-the-job industry training. Students may indenture through a signed and registered Apprenticeship Agreement between the Provincial Government, the apprentice and their horticulture industry employer. Documents are available online at www.itabc.ca.

During the apprenticeship, students attend technical training sessions for theoretical and practical instruction at Kwantlen in Langley. Technical training sessions are six weeks long. Credit for previous work experience and/or vocational training may be negotiated with the Industry Training Authority (ITA) when the apprenticeship agreement is signed and the student is registered.

The first two levels of the program include fundamental horticulture knowledge and skills. The instruction in levels three and four focuses on Production Horticulture. The curriculum used for technical training has been developed and approved by the horticulture industry. It provides relevant, up-to-date information, and is based on recent technological advances in the horticulture field. Typically one level is completed each year but the opportunity exists to complete multiple levels in a single year depending on apprentice/student interest and the technical training schedule.

The proposed technical training schedule can be found on the School of Horticulture website at kwantlen.ca/registration/

timetables/trades/hort-sched. The schedule beyond the current year is subject to change.

Journeypersons in production horticulture are in demand. Municipal parks departments and nurseries often list a journeyperson certification as a minimum requirement when hiring horticulturists.

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA)

Apprentices may be granted prior credit for a portion of the required workplace hours or technical training based on their employment. The employer, the apprentice, and ITA determine this jointly, at the time of indentureship. Graduates of Horticulture Certificate programs (Foundation programs or formerly Entry Level Training programs) are eligible to receive credit for Levels 1 and 2 of the technical training. Application for advanced standing in the apprenticeship program must be made to the ITA, not to Kwantlen.

COSTS

In addition to applicable tuition fees, students require the following:

- textbooks (purchased at the beginning of Level 1 and 3)
- school supplies
- safety footwear
- rain gear
- field trips
- travel
- accommodation and food

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (EI) ELIGIBILITY

(for Indentured Apprentices only)

The Horticulture Apprenticeship program is an approved Technical Training Program. Apprentices may be eligible to collect Employment Insurance Benefits during their in-school sessions, as well as additional benefits such as travel and lodging allowances. These details can be verified by contacting your local Service Canada Centre.

TRANSFER TO A DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Horticulture journeypersons (Certificate of Qualification) can continue their education in a Horticulture diploma program. Depending on the diploma specialty selected, journeypersons would receive advanced standing for between 25.5 and 29.5 credits. Journeypersons will have to meet Kwantlen's English entrance requirements to enter the diploma programs.

STUDENT PROFILE

Students interested in the apprenticeship should have a strong desire for hands-on outdoor work, enjoy nature and

living things, be concerned about the environment, and have entrepreneurial talents. Individuals with allergies to dust, pollen or plant products, or specific chemicals should be aware of the potential impact on their health. Physical fitness and a healthy back are generally required for a successful career in horticulture. Apprentices will work with plant protection products.

Apprentices in the practical Horticulture Apprenticeship program come from a number of horticulture enterprises. For example, they may be working for greenhouse owners, nurseries, municipal parks, or school boards.

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to Kwantlen's General university admission requirements including the vocational-level English Proficiency Requirement, the following program admission requirements apply.

- An ITA Individual ID number (ITA-ID) is required. If you do not have a ITA-ID, you will need to complete an apprenticeship registration form through the ITA (www.itabc.ca) prior to admission (Level 1 through to 4).

Technical training is open to any interested person who meets the admission requirements. HortEducationBC (www.horteducationbc.com), the horticulture industry training organization, will indenture individuals in horticulture for one year.

CONTENT

This program is designed to produce journeypersons with good theoretical and practical training, and experience in the horticulture industry.

Level 1 and Level 2 have the same requirements for both the Landscape Horticulture Apprentice and the Production Horticulture Apprentice. Level 3 and 4 are specialized to each apprenticeship.

HORTICULTURE APPRENTICE LEVEL 1 (AHCC 1010)

- AHCC 1011 - Plant Materials I - A1
- AHCC 1012 - Supervisory Skills - B1
- AHCC 1013 - Equipment Maintenance - C1
- AHCC 1014 - Plant Science - Morphology - D1
- AHCC 1015 - Plant Health - Signs/Symptoms - E1
- AHCC 1016 - Soil Physical Properties - F1
- AHCC 1017 - Horticulture Practices I - H1
- AHCC 1000 - Level I Final Exam

HORTICULTURE APPRENTICE LEVEL 2 (AHCC 1020)

- AHCC 1021 - Plant Materials II - A2
- AHCC 1022 - Supervisory Skills - B2
- AHCC 1023 - Equipment Maintenance II - C2
- AHCC 1024 - Plant Science - Physiology - D2
- AHCC 1025 - Plant Health - Pests, Diseases - E2
- AHCC 1026 - Soil Chemical Properties - F2
- AHCC 1027 - Horticulture Practices II - H2
- AHCC 1028 - Level II Final Exam

PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE APPRENTICE LEVEL 3 (AHPR 1030)

- AHPR 1031 - Plant Materials III - A3
- AHPR 1032 - Pest Control Techniques for Nursery Production - E5
- AHPR 1033 - Management of Soil & Media - F4
- AHPR 1034 - Plant Propagation - M1
- AHPR 1035 - Container Nursery Production - M2
- AHPR 1036 - Systems & Controls - N1
- AHPR 1037 - Phytosanitary Systems - O1
- AHPR 1003 - Production Horticulture Apprentice Final Exam

PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE APPRENTICE LEVEL 4 (AHPR 1040)

- AHPR 1041 - Plant Materials IV - A4
- AHPR 1042 - IPM Programs for Nurseries - E6
- AHPR 1043 - Field Nursery Production - M3
- AHPR 1044 - Production Management - M4
- AHPR 1045 - Irrigation and Drainage - N2
- AHPR 1046 - Phytosanitary Certification - O2
- AHPR 1004 - Production Horticulture Apprentice Final Exam

GRADUATION

Upon successful completion of an apprentice level, Kwantlen will report your technical training completion information to the Industry Trade Authority (ITA) in order for the ITA to determine credit towards your designated apprenticeship.