

Arborist Technician: Apprenticeship

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| Faculty of Science and Horticulture | kpu.ca/science |
| School of Horticulture | kpu.ca/hort |
| Implementation Date | 01-Sep-2011 |
| Start Date(s) | Varies |
| Admission Type | Fixed term |
| Enrolment Type | Limited enrolment |
| Program Type | Vocational |
| Credential Granted | No Credential |
| Offered At | Langley |
| Format | Full-time |
| How to Apply | www.kpu.ca/admission |

DESCRIPTION

Arborists manage and care for the trees in our urban environment. The arborist technician is the first of three sequential trades credentials in arboriculture. The arborist technician job focuses on work conducted from the ground and in support of the climbing arborist (second credential).

The Arborist Technician Apprenticeship links learning and employment by providing apprentices the opportunity to further their education, while maintaining full-time employment in the arboriculture industry. An apprenticeship is established when an employer and employee complete, sign and register an apprentice and sponsor registration form with the Industry Training Authority (ITA, www.itabc.ca). Apprentices may also apply to the ITA for work based training completed before the apprenticeship was established. Refer to <http://www.itabc.ca/discover-apprenticeship-programs/2295/program-details> for information.

Arborist technician apprentices attend one 8 week long technical training session at the Langley Campus of Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Topics include tree and shrub identification, rigging and climbing, pruning, planting, falling, equipment use, and safe work practices. The curriculum used for technical training has been developed and approved by the arboriculture industry.

Journeypersons in arboriculture are in demand. Municipal parks departments and the large private arboriculture industry sector are looking to certified arboriculturist technicians to fill a significant number of ground arborist positions.

Training Dates & Academic Timetable

The proposed technical training schedule can be found at kpu.ca/registration/timetables/trades/hort. The schedule beyond the current year is subject to change www.tradestrainingbc.ca/apprenticeship/schedules/336

Costs

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

- textbooks
- school supplies
- safety footwear

- rain gear
- field trips
- travel
- accommodation and food

Employment Insurance (EI) Eligibility

Provincial program financial supports must be applied for online through the Apprentice Online Portal at www.apprenticeonline.gov.bc.ca. Information on EI is available at www.servicecanada.gc.ca.

STUDENT PROFILE

Students interested in 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 is required for a successful career in arboriculture. Apprentices may work with plant protection products.

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to KPU'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, register with the ITA (www.itabc.ca) prior to admission.
- Class 5 driver's license
- English 10 or better preferred

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Note: AARB courses are assessed Tuition Category 2.b.2 tuition and fees for domestic students.

Arborist Technician Level 1 (AARB 1010)

- AARB 1011 - The Safety Conscious Arborist (A1, A4-A6, H1-H4)
- AARB 1012 - Plant Identification (D1, D2)
- AARB 1013 - Biology, Pruning & Planting (D3-D6)
- AARB 1014 - Falling and Bucking (E1-E8)
- AARB 1015 - Rigging and Climbing (F1-F4, G1)
- AARB 1016 - Tools and Equipment (B1-B4, C1-C4)

CREDENTIAL AWARDED

Upon successful completion of an apprentice level, KPU 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.