

★ OFFICIAL PROGRAM STANDARDS NOTIFICATION ★**Issued: November 23, 2010****Program: ARBORIST TECHNICIAN**

To: ITA Training Providers
HortEducationBC (HEBC)
ACE IT School Districts

RE: REF: 2010 024
NEW ARBORIST TECHNICIAN PROGRAM

Timing: Effective Immediately

Information: Please be advised that the ITA has approved a new program called the Arborist Technician apprenticeship program. The program profile and program outline is posted on the ITA website at www.itabc.ca

Delivery of training for the Arborist Technician apprenticeship program, based on the new program outline, is effective immediately.

Background:

HortEducationBC has been working with a multi-stakeholder group, including employers and local municipalities to review training needs related to the arboricultural industry. The outcome of this work is the development of three new apprenticeship programs: Arborist Technician, Climbing Arborist Technician, and Field Arborist Technician.

The Arborist Technician apprenticeship program is being launched first with a pilot of the in-school training beginning Spring 2011.

The new program features:

- program content which represents the current needs of the arboricultural industry;
- in-school technical training of 8 weeks focusing on specific competencies
- 1,600 work-based training hours; and,
- an ITA Certificate of Qualification examination.

A summative evaluation will be produced after this pilot delivery of the in-school training. The results of the evaluation and any changes to the program standard will be advised in a future OPSN.

Assessment

In-school Training

Training providers delivering Arborist Technician in-school technical training are required to enter the following assessment result for each apprentice in ITADirectAccess:

- An in-school mark in the form of a percentage
(min. 70% is required for a pass)

The in-school mark should be a combined theory and practical assessment determined on the basis of theory and practical subject competencies within the program outline. The theory and practical competency weightings are to be determined by the individual training provider. The ITA in collaboration with HortEducationBC will be initiating a review and update of the assessment guidelines for the new Arborist Technician apprenticeship programs and will advise training providers of any changes to the assessment structure.

Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) Exam

In order to be certified, apprentices registered in Arborist Technician are required to write a C of Q exam and achieve a mark of 70% or greater after completing their in-school training.

C of Q exams may be requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure.

The ITA will administer and invigilate the C of Q exam and score and record exam results in ITADirectAccess.

**For more
information
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