

Issued: January 16, 2013

Program: **Automotive Service Technician (Automotive Service Technician 4)**

To: ITA Training Providers
Automotive Training Standards Organization (ATSO)
ACE IT School Districts

RE: REF: 2013 001
Changes to Automotive Service Technician Programs

Timing: Effective February 11, 2013

Information: Background

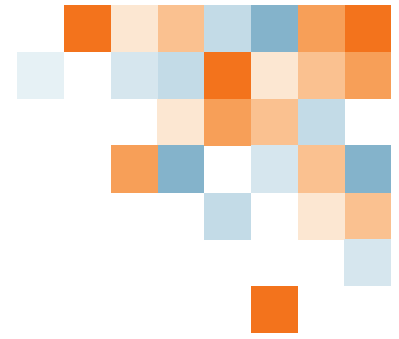
This OPSN is to advise that the Industry Training Authority (ITA) will be implementing changes to the Automotive Service Technician (AST) programs on February 11, 2013.

In recent months ITA has consulted with stakeholders both in industry and within the training provider network regarding the status of the Automotive Service Technician (AST) programs. Feedback indicated that progression through the four AST programs was problematic for apprentices.

ITA has addressed the concerns and recommendations suggested by stakeholders. The program changes will insure apprentices are registered for one program rather than having to register for individual levels. In consultation with the Automotive Training Standards Organization (ATSO) ITA has revised the program standards for AST.

The changes which occurred are:

- Apprentices are no longer required to complete the mandatory 1,500 work- based training hours at each level,
- Apprentices are able to continue technical training without formal ITA certification at each level,
- Apprentices are able to progress through to AST 4 without having to return the Recommendation for Certification (RFC) for each level,
- The apprentice is able to choose one of two options:
 - Either claim certification at the end of each level (up to four certificates),**OR**
 - Continue straight through to AST4 and claim certification at the end of the program (Please note that this option means that only **one** certificate will be issued with the IP Red Seal endorsement),



- Apprentices are able to exit the program at any stage and claim certification as long as all requirements are met for that level,
- Apprentices will be registered at the entry point by ITA and no additional registration is required,
- Having one Program Outline which will include content on the AST 1, AST 2, AST 3 & AST 4 levels, and
- Having one Program Profile which will link AST 1, AST 2, AST 3 and AST 4.
- AST program completion requirements
- The program completion requirements for all four levels remain the same. Apprentices must complete work-based training hours, pass their in-school technical training (minimum 70% required), pass the Certificate of Qualification (CofQ) exam (minimum 70% required) and have the signed Recommendation for Certification (RFC) from their sponsor returned to ITA in order to achieve certification.
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- Apprentices will be required to pass the CofQ exam with a minimum of 70% in the previous level before being allowed to write the exam for the next level. For example, apprentices will be required to pass the AST1 exam before writing the AST2 exam.

Please note that no action is required by the sponsor or apprentice as ITA will transition all apprentices into the revised program automatically.

**For more
information
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