

Issued: December 19, 2013

Program: LAUNCH OF CLIMBING ARBORIST PROGRAM

To: ITA Training Providers
HortEducationBC (HEBC)

RE: OPSN 2013 032
LAUNCH OF CLIMBING ARBORIST PROGRAM

Timing: Effective: December 16, 2013

Information Please be advised that the Climbing Arborist program has been launched by the Industry Training Authority (ITA). An updated Program Profile and a Program Outline are posted on the ITA website at www.itabc.ca.

Climbing Arborists perform advanced rigging and pruning to maintain the health and structure of trees in their environment. Most of a Climbing Arborist's time is spent within the canopy of trees. They are knowledgeable in tree identification, pest identification and common tree diseases.

Delivery of training for the Climbing Arborist apprenticeship program is to be based on the new program outline as of August, 2013. The program will be delivered by a sole training provider, the Electrical Industry Training Institute (EITI) at their facility in Mission, BC.

The Climbing Arborist program is the second stage in a progressive credential structure which begins with Arborist Technician and culminates in Field Arborist. A Certificate of Qualification (CofQ) is issued for each program in the progressive credential structure, once the individual program completion requirements have been achieved. To register in the Climbing Arborist program the apprentice must hold the CofQ as an Arborist Technician.

**Program
Completion
Requirements**

Technical Training

All apprentices must successfully complete 8 weeks of technical training.

The in-school mark is derived from a combination of theory and practical assessments. Instructors are expected to follow the *Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings* table found on page 4 of this OPSN to calculate the final in-school percentage score.

Instructors then enter the final in-school percentage score into ITA Direct Access. A final mark of minimum 70% is required for a pass.

**In-School
Technical
Training
Percentage
Score**

As per the *Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings* table on page 4, the in-school percentage score for Climbing Arborist is calculated from a percentage weighting of theory and practical assessments within the level training topic.

To calculate the in-school percentage score for Climbing Arborist:

- Total the theory column competency score as noted in the competencies and weightings tables and multiply the total by 30% to produce a weighted theory score;
- Total the practical column competency results as noted in the competencies and weightings tables and multiply the total by 70% to produce a weighted practical score;
- Add the weighted theory and practical competency scores together to determine the final in-school percentage score;
- After completing the final percentage score for each apprentice, enter the score into ITA Direct Access.

**Climbing
Arborist
Certificate of
Qualification
Exam**

In order to achieve certification, Climbing Arborist apprentices must write the Climbing Arborist Certificate of Qualification (CofQ) exam after completing 8 weeks of in-school technical training.

Apprentices must pass the in-school technical training to be eligible to take the exam. A score of 70% or greater is required for a pass.

The Climbing Arborist CofQ exam is requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure. ITA will administer and invigilate the Climbing Arborist CofQ exam and score and record exam results in ITA Direct Access.

All apprentices and ITA approved challengers for the Climbing Arborist program must pass a written assessment. The apprentice and the approved challenger must achieve a minimum of 70% on the Certificate of Qualification (CofQ) exam to gain certification.

Practical Assessment

Candidates must pass the written CofQ exam before they are eligible to take the practical assessment. Apprentices must also have achieved a minimum of 70% in their in-school technical training. Once approved by ITA to complete the practical assessment, the candidate is notified and instructed how to schedule the practical assessment.

The assessment agency for Climbing Arborist is HortEducationBC. All candidates are responsible to coordinate their own practical assessment with the assessment agency and pay any corresponding fees.

Assessment Agency

HortEducationBC is the assessment agency approved to assess both apprentices and challengers of this certification. They can be contacted by telephone: 604.430.0422 and through their website: www.horteducationbc.com.

**For more
information
contact:**

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Grading Sheet: Subject Competency and Weightings

PROGRAM: IN-SCHOOL TRAINING: ITA DIRECT ACCESS COURSE CODE:		CLIMBING ARBORIST CofQ 0338TB01	
LINE	TRAINING TOPICS & SUGGESTED TIME ALLOCATION	THEORY WEIGHTING	PRACTICAL WEIGHTING
A	Regulation and Other Occupational Skills (6%)	10%	0%
B	Power Equipment (8%)	10%	10%
D	Tree Work and Management (50%)	40%	50%
F	Rigging (11%)	10%	10%
G	Climbing (12%)	10%	10%
H	Emergency Response (8%)	10%	10%
I	Job Planning and Risk Assessment (5%)	10%	10%
	Total	100%	100%
CLIMBING ARBORIST in-school theory & practical subject competency weighting.		30%	70%
Calculated by the Training Provider: Multiply the total percentage scores in the theory column for each of the theory topics and multiply by 30%. Multiply the total percentage scores in the practical column for each of the theory topics and multiply by 70%. Add the two percentage scores to achieve a final percentage score for the level. This final percentage score is entered into ITA Direct Access. A Training Provider percentage mark of 70% or greater is required for successful completion.		IN-SCHOOL%	

ITA will enter the apprentices' Climbing Arborist Certificate of Qualification examination mark in ITA Direct Access. A minimum mark of 70% on the examination is required for a pass.

NOTE: Must pass Climbing Arborist Certificate of Qualification prior to taking Practical Assessment

Standardized Practical Assessment:

Declared competent by an ITA-registered Climbing Arborist Assessor in all 7 units of competency.