



Pursuing a career in the skilled trades offers people the opportunity to get paid while they learn and earn a credential that will lead to a rewarding, high paying, and in-demand job.

There are programs, services, and financial supports available to help people pursue or advance their careers in the trades.

## Learn More

For more information about financial and other supports for apprentices and employers:

**SkilledTradesBC Financial Support**  
<https://skilledtradesbc.ca/financial-support>

**SkilledTradesBC Apprentice Advisors**  
<https://skilledtradesbc.ca/contact-us>

**WorkBC Services for Apprentices and Employers**  
<https://tinyurl.com/WorkBC-apprentices>

**Government of Canada Funding Opportunities**  
<https://tinyurl.com/GovCan-Funding>



Ministry of  
Post-Secondary Education  
and Future Skills

2025

# Build a Better Future in the Trades: Supports that Work for you.



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## Pre-Apprenticeship

Starting out or thinking about a career change? Supports are available to people who are interested in the trades but are not yet a registered apprentice. These include financial aid, grants, scholarships and training programs.

### Foundation Programs

(<https://skilledtradesbc.ca/foundation-programs>) provide the basic knowledge and skills needed to enter a trade.

### Programs for Underrepresented Groups

(<https://tinyurl.com/Underrepresented-group-pgrm>) delivers skills development and employment programs focused on meeting the needs of women, Indigenous Peoples, and other equity-deserving groups.

### BladeRunners

(<https://tinyurl.com/BladeRunners-pgrm>) offers life skills, job readiness skills, work experience and ongoing supports for unemployed and precariously employed youth (ages 15 to 30).

### English Language Learning

(<https://tinyurl.com/ELL-pgrm>) courses are offered tuition-free for domestic students to help improve English skills, preparing people for trades training or jobs.

**B.C. Open Collection** (<https://collection.bccampus.ca>) provides free access to over 330 textbooks, including for foundation trades courses.

**B.C. Access Grant** (<https://tinyurl.com/BCAccessGrant>) is available through the StudentAid BC application to low and middle-income students enrolled in pre-apprenticeship programs.

### Youth Work in Trades Award

(<https://tinyurl.com/Youth-Work-in-Trades>) is available to secondary school students who begin apprenticeship training as part of their secondary school education.

### Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students with Dependents

(<https://tinyurl.com/Canada-Student-Grant>) helps full-time or part-time students with a dependant child with the cost of education, including foundation programs.

### Adult Upgrading Grant

(<https://tinyurl.com/Adult-Upgrading-Grant>) offers financial support to students in skills upgrading courses, including adult education and English language learning.

## Already an Apprentice?

Both the provincial and federal governments offer financial assistance through loans, tax credits, and grants.

SkilledTradesBC provides regional support through Apprenticeship Advisors throughout the province. Additionally, SkilledTradesBC collaborates with Indigenous communities to provide cultural supports for Indigenous apprentices and assist with reporting apprenticeship hours, aiming to improve completion rates.

### B.C. Training Tax Credit for Apprentices

(<https://tinyurl.com/BC-training-tax-credit>) provides up to \$3,000 for apprentices in the first two years of the non-Red Seal program and up to \$6,750 for all apprentices in the final two years of their program.

### WorkBC Apprentice Services

(<https://tinyurl.com/WorkBC-apprentices>) offers financial support for travel, childcare and relocation during training.

### Provincial Tuition Waiver Program

(<https://tinyurl.com/BC-PTWP>) covers tuition and fees for any former children or youth in care of any age pursuing trades training.

**Here2Talk** (<https://here2talk.ca>) provides free, 24/7 mental health support (including counselling and referrals) for all students, including apprentices.

### Employment Insurance (EI)

(<https://tinyurl.com/EI-Apprentices>) is available from Service Canada for apprentices attending full-time technical training.

### Canada Apprentice Loan

(<https://tinyurl.com/Canada-Apprentice-Loan>) provides up to \$4,000 in interest-free loans for each period of technical training.

### Labour Mobility Deduction for Tradespeople

(<https://tinyurl.com/Labour-Mobility-Deduction>) provides a deduction for transportation, meals and temporary lodging costs for tradespeople working at temporary construction jobs.

### Tradesperson's Tool Deduction

(<https://tinyurl.com/Trades-tool-deduction>) lets eligible tradespeople claim up to \$1,000 annually for tool costs.

### Canada Apprentice Mechanics Tool Deduction

(<https://tinyurl.com/Mechanics-tool-deduction>) is available for apprentice mechanics to deduct part of their tool costs.

### Canada Training Credit

(<https://tinyurl.com/Can-training-credit>) allows apprentices to claim a tax credit for tuition and certification exam fees.

### Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program

(<https://tinyurl.com/ISET-pgrm>) helps Indigenous people improve their skills and find employment. The program provides funding to Indigenous service delivery organizations to deliver job training services to First Nations, Inuit, Métis, and urban/non-affiliated Indigenous people in their communities.

## Supports for Employers

Looking to sponsor an apprentice? Several supports are available to assist employers to hire the trades talent they need.

### B.C. Training Tax Credit for Employers

(<https://tinyurl.com/BC-training-tax-employers>) provides income tax credits for employers who hire apprentices.

### Shipbuilding and Ship Repair Industry Tax Credit

(<https://tinyurl.com/Ship-tax-credit>) can be claimed by eligible employers in this sector for apprentice wages.

### B.C. Employer Training Grant

(<https://tinyurl.com/BCET-grant>) provides funding for employers to invest in training for new employees or to advance the skills of existing employees.

### The Government of Canada's Apprenticeship Job Creation Tax Credit

(<https://tinyurl.com/Apprentice-tax-credit>) provides a 10% wage credit for employers who hire Red Seal apprentices.