

Enhanced on-the job learning for apprentices

New requirement, new opportunities

On-the-job learning is an essential part of apprenticeship training and promoting more opportunities to teach and learn on a worksite enhances the education and skills of Alberta's tradespeople.

In recognition of the value of on-site learning, the Government of Alberta is working to enhance the education and training of our skilled tradespeople.

Following consultations with industry, Alberta is introducing a new policy that will support opportunities for apprentices in 11 trades to actively participate on significant public infrastructure and transportation projects. Among the projects that could be considered under this policy are road and bridge construction, and public buildings. The applicable trades include:

- Carpenter
- Crane & Hoisting Equipment Operator
- Electrician
- Elevator Constructor
- Gasfitter
- Heavy Equipment Technician
- Ironworker
- Plumber
- Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Mechanic
- Sheet Metal Worker
- Welder

Next Steps

Beginning this month, government funded construction projects valued at over \$15 million, or those taking two years or longer to complete will be required to hire at least one apprentice for the project. Sub-contracts of these projects valued at \$500,000 or greater are also required to employ at least one apprentice.

The policy will also require potential vendors to develop apprenticeship plans to identify how they intend to optimize the use of apprentices and support their learning and progression.

Building on success

In an economy that is becoming more specialized and diverse, building upon industry's role in Alberta's existing worksite training and enhancing that learning is critical to the success of Alberta's apprentices.

Alberta's apprenticeship training system provides the training and skills that people and our economy need. Enhancing the job-ready abilities of Alberta's skilled tradespeople makes life better for apprentices and for Alberta.