

APPRENTICESHIP IN ARBORIST TECHNICIAN

At a Glance

Faculty

kpu.ca/science (<http://kpu.ca/science/>)

Area of Study:

kpu.ca/hort (<http://kpu.ca/hort/>)

Academic Level:

Vocational

Credential Granted:

Intake Type:

- Open

Description

Arborists manage and care for the trees in our urban environment. The arborist technician is the first of three sequential trades credentials in arboriculture. The arborist technician job focuses on work conducted from the ground and in support of the climbing arborist (second credential).

Arborist Technician Apprenticeship combines on-the-job training and classroom learning. An apprenticeship is established when an apprentice obtains an ITA Identification Number and registers their apprenticeship and sponsoring employer with the Industry Training Authority (ITA). After apprentices have registered with the ITA, they can apply to register at KPU for in-class training. Apprentices may apply to the ITA to recognize prior work based training hours. Refer to www.itabc.ca (<http://www.itabc.ca>) for information. Arborist Technician Apprentices attend 8-weeks of in-class and applied technical training at the KPU Langley Campus.

The Arborist Technician program was established by arboriculture subject matter experts and the BC Industry Training Authority. Topics include tree and shrub identification, rigging and climbing, pruning, planting, falling, equipment use, and safe work practices. The curriculum used for technical training has been developed and approved by the arboriculture industry.

Journeypersons in arboriculture are in demand. Certified arborist technicians work in municipal parks departments, school boards, golf courses and for private arboriculture companies.

Training Schedules

KPU apprentice training schedules and waitlists are published on Kwantlen Course Search (<http://kpu.ca/registration/timetables/>). Additional apprenticeship training opportunities are listed on Trades Training BC (<https://www.tradetrainingbc.ca/>); this is the hub for BC's Public Trades Training Programs & Services.

Costs

In addition to applicable tuition fees, students require the following:

- textbooks (Available at the Kwantlen Polytechnic University bookstore at the start of classes)

- school supplies
- safety footwear (in conformance with WorkSafeBC regulations)
- rain gear and outdoor work wear including work gloves
- professional quality hand held bypass pruners
- field trips
- travel
- accommodation and food

Financial Supports for Apprentices

Apprentices may be eligible for financial support for the in-class portion of their training through the EPBC Apprentice Program Financial Supports. Application to this program must be made four to six weeks prior to the start of technical training. Information is available through WorkBC.

Apprentices must apply separately for Employment Insurance (EI) Benefits no later than the last week of work, or during the first week of training, or they will not be eligible to receive EPBC Apprentice Program Financial Supports. EI information can be obtained by visiting Service Canada.

The Canada Apprentice Loan is an initiative of the Government of Canada. As of January 2015, apprentices can apply for up to \$4,000 in interest-free loans per period of in-school technical training. Information is available at the Canada Apprentice Loan Service Centre.

Student Profile

Students interested in the Arborist Technician apprenticeship program will have a strong desire for hands-on outdoor work, enjoy working in nature and with living things, and be interested in learning about the trees in ecosystems they work in. Individuals with allergies to dust, pollen or plant products, or specific chemicals should be aware of the potential impact on their health. Physical fitness and a healthy back are generally required for a successful career in arboriculture. Apprentices may work with plant protection products.

Apprentices in the practical Arborist Technician Apprenticeship program typically have some work experience or are interested in working in number of arboriculture enterprises. For example, they may be working for arboriculture companies, golf courses, municipal parks, school boards, and landscape maintenance or construction companies.

Requirements

General Prerequisites

The following requirements apply:

- Completed KPU Apprentice Registration (<http://kpu.ca/trades/apprenticeship-registration/>)
- Active apprentice registration in the BC Apprenticeship system.
- Valid Trade Worker Identification number from the Industry Training Authority (ITA-ID). If you do not have an ITA-ID, you will need to complete an apprenticeship registration form through the ITA (www.itabc.ca) (<http://www.itabc.ca>) prior to enrolling. To determine your eligibility please consult with the Industry Training Authority.
- Grade 10 or equivalent, including English 10, Math 10 and Science 10 is recommended

Note: International student enrollment requires approval of the Dean.

Curricular Requirements

Note: AARB courses are assessed Tuition Category 2.b.2 tuition and fees for domestic students. KPU Tech does not permit students to register in Apprenticeship Levels out of sequence.

Curricular requirements are established by the Arborist Technician Program of the ITA. Details are available on the Arborist Technician webpage at itabc.ca (<http://www.itabc.ca>)

Code	Title	Credits
AARB 1010	Arborist Technician	
AARB 1011	The Safety Conscious Arborist (A1,A4-A6,H1-H4)	
AARB 1012	Plant Identification (D1, D2)	
AARB 1013	Biology, Pruning & Planting (D3-D6)	
AARB 1014	Falling and Bucking (E1-E8)	
AARB 1015	Rigging and Climbing (F1-F4, G1)	
AARB 1016	Tools and Equipment (B1-B4, C1-C4)	

Credential Awarded

Upon successful completion of an apprentice level, KPU will report your technical training completion information to the Industry Trade Authority (ITA) in order for the ITA to determine credit towards your designated apprenticeship.

Courses

AARB 1010 0 credits

Arborist Technician

Apprentices will study and practice the skills required to become a successful arborist technician. The arborist technician works primarily from the ground and supports climbing arborists and field arborists. They will practice using larger equipment such as chippers and stump cutters and will learn to work around bucket trucks. Apprentices will work with chainsaws. They will learn basic rigging techniques and be introduced to climbing equipment. Apprentices will begin to develop plant identification skills and will prune a variety of smaller trees, shrubs, vines, and groundcovers.

Level: VO

Prerequisite(s): 1. Valid Trade Worker ID Number (ITA ID #) 2. Active apprentice registration in the BC Apprenticeship system 3. Class 5 Driver's license 4. English 10 or better preferred 5. Additional requirements mandated by the Industry Training Authority may be required, contact Apprenticeship Services for information

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1011 0 credits

The Safety Conscious Arborist (A1,A4-A6,H1-H4)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1012 0 credits

Plant Identification (D1, D2)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1013 0 credits

Biology, Pruning & Planting (D3-D6)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1014 0 credits

Falling and Bucking (E1-E8)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1015 0 credits

Rigging and Climbing (F1-F4, G1)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1016 0 credits

Tools and Equipment (B1-B4, C1-C4)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1017 0 credits

Arboriculturist Final Exam

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1018 0 credits

Arboriculturist Final Exam

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1020 0 credits

Climbing Arborist

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1021 0 credits

Tree Identification

A Climbing Arborist has a working knowledge of a variety of different tree species and can identify them using a variety of methodologies. Apprentices will identify a variety of tree species common to British Columbia using several different methodologies. Apprentices will describe the morphological characteristics of a variety of common trees, including buds, leaf scar, stems, bark, inflorescences, leaf arrangement and morphology, and growth habit. The apprentice will also select appropriate trees for planting on site conditions and assess the trees prior to installation. (Lines D7, D13)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1022 0 credits**Tree Assessment**

Climbing Arborists occasionally assess options and apply appropriate actions to solve abiotic disorders of trees in a safe and effective manner. The apprentice will be able to assess trees for common abiotic tree disorders, including assessment of soils and tree structural conditions. The apprentice will apply basic actions such as pruning, wound tracing and treatments to mitigate abiotic tree disorders. (Lines D7, D10)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1023 0 credits**Tree Disease Identification**

The Climbing Arborist apprentice will identify and diagnose common woody plant pests and diseases in British Columbia. The apprentice will select and install structural supports in trees to reduce tree failure, reduce tree hazards, and improve structure for tree restoration purposes., according to Industry standards. (Lines D8, D9, D11, D14)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1024 0 credits**Pruning, Planning and Risk**

The Climbing Arborist must understand factors and associated risks influencing the safe execution of the job and to develop safe procedures. The apprentice will learn to identify and understand all factors and associated risks influencing the safe execution of the job. The apprentice will learn to develop and communicate a safe job plan. The apprentice will prune a wide variety of trees while using appropriate techniques and tools. (Lines I1,2,3, D12)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1025 0 credits**Rigging and Regulations**

Climbing Arborists must to know the legislation and regulations that pertain to their work on to the job site. The apprentice will use rigging techniques to remove large trees or portions of trees in confined locations or when surrounded by obstacles with a low impact focus, according to Industry standards and the authorities having jurisdiction. The apprentice will safely use various cutting techniques in aerial situations to remove tree parts. (Lines F5,6, A5,6)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1026 0 credits**Climbing, Planning and Risk**

Climbing Arborists will regularly asses the work site for a variety of risks including specific ground risks, tree risks, and weather risks. Apprentices will formulate and communicate risk management plans. They will learn to select appropriate climbing equipment and inspect it for safety. (Lines A5, A6, I1,2,3,D12,G2-5)

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)

AARB 1028 0 credits**Climbing Arborist CoQ Final Exam**

Level: VO

Attributes: F2B2 (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>), SCIH (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/courses-az/#courseattributestext>)