

Skilled Labourer Program

Program Overview

This full-time, ten-week program will introduce and prepare young adults ages 18-24 for a variety of exciting roles in the construction and manufacturing industries. The program will include industry certifications, occupational skills, job placement or practicum experience, an essential skills component and job readiness throughout the program.

There will be seats for 14 participants in Prince George, 12 in Quesnel and 8 in Burns Lake and an opportunity for one student from each campus to be awarded a seat in a Foundation Trade program.

Training and Workload

Essential Skills Training and the Job Readiness course are personalized in their approach and delivery. Curriculum and content is designed to allow individuals the flexibility to move along a personal learning path toward increased essential skills, improved soft skills, and toward employment and will include such courses as:

Technical Training - up to 90 hours

Basic carpentry and construction skills using content from the Industry Training Authority Construction Craft Worker curriculum.

Core Certificate Training - up to 120 hours

Core Certificate courses will be completed by all program participants in a given program at a given campus and may include:

- Confined Space
- Construction Safety Training Systems
- Fall Protection
- H2S Alive
- Occupational First Aid Level 1
- Occupational Health & Safety
- Rigging & Lifting
- Risk Assessment
- Transportation Endorsement
- Workplace Hazardous Materials Information Systems (WHMIS)

Job Readiness - up to 40 hours

A job readiness component will occur throughout the program where participants will learn skills to help them succeed in finding and maintaining employment including resume writing, on-line employment searches and applications, introduction to cover letters (including targeting cover letters to a specific employer), and interview skills.

Essential Skills - up to 24 hours

This essential skills component will focus on the basic worksite skills including oral communication, document use, reading text, and numeracy.



Funding for this program has been provided by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training through the Workforce Development Agreement and therefore the program has eligibility criteria candidates need to meet.

Eligibility Criteria

In order to be considered for the Skilled Labourer program, you must be:

- A Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person (under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act) legally entitled to work in Canada,
- Living in British Columbia,
- Not a full-time student (ie. not enrolled in high school or in post-secondary training) and,
- Not actively participating in another provincially funded or federally funded labour market program,
- Is unemployed, precariously employed*, or has just cause** for leaving their current employment.

*Precariously employed means an individual who does not meet the definition of unemployed, but who:

- is working in unstable or unsustainable employment (including self-employment) as evidenced by:
 - irregular hours of work (such as casual labour or on-call work);
 - unreliable remuneration (such as piece-work or commission) and/or;
 - earnings, that cannot support an individual or their family;
- is working, but has a total employment (including self-employment) income that is below the market basket measures;
- is working in an industry or occupation that is likely to be replaced by technology or automation in the near future;
- is working in an occupation or profession that is clearly lower than their skills or qualifications and that provides no imminent prospect of advancement; or
- has just cause for leaving their current employment.

**Just cause means having a reasonable motive for voluntarily leaving or taking leave from employment because the individual had no reasonable alternative to leaving or taking leave, having regard to all the circumstances, including any of the following:

- sexual or other harassment;
- obligation to accompany a spouse, common-law partner or dependent child to another residence;
- discrimination on a prohibited ground of discrimination within the meaning of the Canadian Human Rights Act;
- working conditions that constitute a danger to health or safety;
- obligation to care for a child or a member of the immediate family;
- reasonable assurance of other employment in the immediate future;
- significant modification of terms and conditions respecting wages or salary;
- excessive overtime work or refusal to pay for overtime work;
- significant changes in work duties;
- antagonism with a supervisor if the employee is not primarily responsible for the antagonism;
- practices of an employer that are contrary to law;
- discrimination with regard to employment because of membership in an association, organization or union of workers;
- undue pressure by an employer on the individual to leave their employment; or
- any other reasonable circumstances.



Selection Criteria

We're looking for individuals that demonstrate:

- Attitude and willingness to learn.
- Desire to develop as a tradesperson.
- Expressed understanding of the process of seeking and securing work and motivation to engage in the process.
- Professional conduct/presentation.
- Understanding of or experience in a trade.
- Understanding of the requirements of trades training.
- Ability to identify strategies to overcome challenges of trades training.

Program Supports

- Tuition, fees and books.
- Personal protective equipment.
- Weekly training wage.
- Student bus pass (UPass) and/or transportation support (ie: gas cards).

Supports with Your Job Search Process

Our staff will continue to be available to support you as you take your job search process to the next level. We will continue to be your primary supports for this work, so please keep in touch and let us know how things are going and please ask if you have any questions!

Work Requirements (including Personal Protective Equipment, Tools, Additional Certifications)

There is funding available for additional supports. If you are offered a job that requires any of these things – additional personal protective equipment, tools, or additional certifications, please provide us with documentation of the job offer and details on what you require and we will assess each situation on a case by case basis to see what we can do.

Wage Subsidies

If you are discussing employment with another employer and you want to let them know you may be eligible for a wage subsidy through this program please do. We would be happy to discuss with them what is involved. The funding is set up to provide approximately half your wages for two months, so it can be a huge help for an employer and can help you get your foot in a door.

Interested in Taking the Next Steps?

We look forward to hearing from you! Contact us today to see if you qualify for this fully funded program.

You can call our department at 250 561 5846, text us at 250 565 5198 or email us at continuinged@cnc.bc.ca.