

BECOMING AN APPRENTICE – 5 EASY STEPS

There are many different ways of becoming an Apprentice, and many different companies that accept Apprentices. Merit Contractors is an Association that represents companies who operate in an open shop environment. Many of the member companies offer apprenticeship programs.

1. Research Your Trade of Interest

There are over 200 skilled trades in Canada, but which one is right for you? Assess your interests, skills, aptitude and the kind of lifestyle you want.

2. Know Your Requirements

A high school diploma or equivalent is required for most trade programs.

3. How To Get In

1. Once you have chosen a trade you must find a qualified employer to hire you as an apprentice.
2. Alternatively, Red River College offers a Pre Employment course. This course will allow you to learn your specific trade in school. Once completed you will graduate as a second level apprentice.
3. Some high schools offer trade specific training and those credits may count for the apprenticeship.

4. Register As An Apprentice & Submit Your Application Fee

Once you have found an employer to hire you, you will need to register as an apprentice. Either you or your employer can obtain an APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATION/AGREEMENT which will require information and a signature from both of you.

5. Start Your Career

After completing the program requirements and passing the required exams for your chosen trade you will receive your Certificate of Qualification. In most trades if you achieve 70% or higher on your final exam, you qualify for an interprovincial or “Red Seal” endorsement. With a “Red Seal” endorsed Certificate of Qualification, an experienced worker becomes a certified journeyman who can practice their trade across Canada. CONGRATULATIONS!