



Ministry of
Education

The Trades Certificate: A new teaching certificate for trades professionals

Under the *Teachers Act*, the BC Teachers' Council (Council) is mandated to classify types of certificates and to establish the standards to be met for each type of certificate. The Teacher Regulation Branch (TRB), part of the Ministry of Education, operationalizes the regulatory structure for the teaching profession in BC.

The Council has established a new Trades Certificate that will enable trades professionals with a Red Seal or trades qualification, issued or recognized by the Industry Training Authority (ITA) in a trade that has a minimum of three levels of technical training, to teach in BC's K-12 school systems.

There is currently no BC post-secondary institution delivering a program that will lead to the Trades Certificate. However, with the approval of this certificate, BC's teacher education programs that offer teacher training now have the option to develop and offer trades-focused teacher training courses that will lead to the issuance of the Trades Certificate via this new pathway. There are also a small number of people in BC, or who may come to BC from other provinces, who already have similar certification in other provinces and would qualify for this new Trades Certificate. Please note that the Provincial Instructor Diploma (issued by the Ministry of Advanced Education) is not accepted as a K-12 teacher training program.

To be eligible for this non-expiring certificate that is restricted to teaching a specific trade area, trades professionals must apply to the TRB, pay an application fee, satisfy the Director of Certification that they are of good moral character, and meet the certification requirements outlined on the TRB website.

BC certificate holders who already hold an unrestricted Certificate of Qualification issued by the BC Ministry of Education are already qualified to work in BC's K-12 school systems and, therefore, do not need to apply for additional certification.

To learn more about how to qualify for the restricted Trades Certificate, please see the attached brochure.

The Trades Certificate

Are you a trades professional interested in teaching in BC? The Trades Certificate may be of interest to you.

Teaching in BC's K-12 School Systems

To work as a teacher in BC's kindergarten-12 school systems, you must obtain a teaching certificate issued by the Teacher Regulation Branch (TRB) of the Ministry of Education. Holding a certificate shows the public that you have the qualifications, experience and characteristics necessary to work with children.



A New Certificate

The BC Teachers' Council, mandated under the *Teachers Act* to set standards for BC teachers in the areas of teacher education, certification, conduct and competence, established the Trades Certificate to enable certain Red Seal and Certificate of Qualification trades professionals to teach in BC's K-12 school systems.

This non-expiring certificate, restricted to teaching a specific trade area, makes the process for earning a teaching certificate faster and easier. In addition, it creates a pathway to upgrade to an unrestricted certificate.



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Eligibility

To qualify for a Trades Certificate, you must undergo the application process and meet the following certification requirements:

- Complete grade 12 or equivalent;
- Hold a Red Seal or Certificate of Qualification issued or recognized by the Industry Training Authority in a trade that has a minimum of three levels of technical training;
- Complete a minimum of 5 years journeyperson work and/or teaching experience;
- Complete a full teacher education program of no less than 48 credits; and
- Complete 6 credits of English or French literature and composition.

Upgrading to an Unrestricted Certificate

Individuals who hold a Ministry of Education Trades Certificate may upgrade to a Professional Certificate by completing additional requirements, which may include:

- 12 credits of coursework in a minimum of 2 additional trades/technology areas; or
- 24 credits of coursework in another recognized subject area taught in a BC secondary school.



More Information

For further information on the Trades Certificate, visit the TRB website:
bcteacherregulation.ca

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