

# LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

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## MANDATORY CERTIFICATION FOR TEN TRADES

On June 11, 2021, the government announced mandatory certification for ten trades. The Skilled Trades Certification will require all workers of selected trades to either be a registered apprentice with the Industry Training Authority (ITA) or a certified journeyman (ex. Red Seal) in order to legally work in that trade. Additionally, the government will be introducing journeyman-to-apprentice ratios for each of the ten trades. Information regarding the engagement process to guide the transition to mandatory certification can be found [here](#).

### Skilled Trades Certification

The Skilled Trades Certification will begin with the following 10 trades:

Electrical	Mechanical	Automotive
1. Electrician (Constructions)	4. Gasfitter A&B	8. Heavy Duty Equipment Technician
2. Industrial Electrician	5. Steamfitter/Pipefitter	9. Automotive Service Technician
3. Power Line Technician	6. Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic	10. Auto Body and Collision Technician
	7. Sheet Metal Worker	

The implementation of the certification is expected to occur in phases with additional trades added later on. Reportedly, the government intends to introduce legislation regarding the implementation of the new certification system in the first quarter of 2022. The first changes to certification are expected to be the electrical and mechanical trades by 2023 and the automotive trades listed above by 2025.

Once legislation is introduced, uncertified workers will have one year before they must register as an apprentice or challenge a certification exam to become a journeyman. Employers will be encouraged to register any unregistered apprentices. Registration information can be found at [itabc.ca](http://itabc.ca) or by calling the ITA's customer service line at 778-328-8700.

In addition to the above, the ITA will work with industry to establish journeyman to apprentice ratios for each trade. The timeframe or process for this has not yet been laid out.

With respect to engagement processes, there is currently an opportunity to participate in an online survey which closes on August 31, 2021 (click [here](#) to complete the survey). Additionally, to register to participate in a community roundtable scheduled to occur beginning in July 2021, please click [here](#).



## LINKS

“*Skilled Trades Certification in B.C.*,” Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training. Technical Briefing. June 2021. [https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/STC\\_Technical\\_Briefing\\_June11.pdf](https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/STC_Technical_Briefing_June11.pdf)

“*Supporting skilled trades workers, strengthening BC’s recovery, Advanced Education and Skills Training*,” BC Gov News. July 11, 2021. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021AEST0039-001140>

“*What’s this engagement about?*” Skilled Trades Certification. <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/skilledtrades>

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

“*Skilled Trades Certification; Business Case*,” Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training. June 2021. <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/672/2021/06/Business-Case-Skilled-Trades-Certification.pdf>

“*Impact of Certification on Trades Skills in BC; Report of Findings from Commissioned Research*,” BCIT working in partnership with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training. <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/672/2021/06/BCITFinalReport.pdf>

“*The Impact of Skilled Trades Certification in BC*,” Price Waterhouse Coopers. September 18, 2020. <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/672/2021/06/PricewaterhouseCoopersFinalReport.pdf>

## QUESTIONS?

If you have any comments or questions about this update, please e-mail [RES360@metrovancover.org](mailto:RES360@metrovancover.org) or call 604-451-6558