

“What’s New in Apprenticeship?” Webinar

Questions and Answers

The following questions were collected from the chat and Q&A of the December 4, 2020 “What’s New in Apprenticeship?” webinar. As much as possible, the answers are accurate to the date researched.

1. Does an ACE certificate count as a Grade 12 equivalent for apprenticeship?

Yes, the ACE Certificate is recognized as a Grade 12 equivalent.

2. Do you need a gr. 12 diploma to enter most trades, then?

Ontario college pre-trades programs typically require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or equivalent. Additional academic requirements will vary by program, but, may include a grade 12 English or mathematics credits.

3. What is the Certificate of Qualification exams?

The Certificate of Qualification is the exam an apprentice writes to be certified in the trade at the end of apprenticeship.

OCOT Website: <https://www.collegeoftrades.ca/resources/exam-process>

“Not all trades in Ontario are subject to a Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) examination. For a list of trades with C of Q examinations, see attachment. If your trade is not subject to a C of Q exam and you have a Certificate of Apprenticeship or an approved Trade Equivalency Assessment, you are eligible to apply directly for a C of Q and membership in the Journeypersons Class.”

C of Q exam questions are multiple-choice. Exams have between 90 to 150 questions with each question having four answer options to choose from.

Apprentices have up to four hours to write their C of Q exam. They need to score at least 70% to pass the C of Q exam.

LBS can help with Certificate of Qualification exam preparation, attending the exam as a reader etc.

4. How will an Apprentice get referred to LBS?

On the Ontario.ca website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/prepare-apprenticeship#section-1>

There are a number of links to Live Chat with Employment Ontario for assistance with Apprenticeship advice and training.

LBS service providers are encouraged to connect with Employment Services and building relationships with college programs, unions, employers etc. to support referrals to LBS.

5. Is the GED equally acceptable for apprenticeship?

A GED will give you an equivalency for Grade 12, but you might need more skills to enter an apprenticeship. A GED is an alternative not an equivalency.

6. Will the agencies be receiving information outlining the changes for apprenticeship?

The best sources of up-to-date information is:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/apprenticeship-ontario>

7. Do you know if there are there any accommodations provided for deaf apprentices to be with the language terminology on the C of Q?

From the OCOT Frequently Asked Questions – Certificate of Qualification Exam:

“Requests for exam accommodations are available, however, you must pay your exam fee to the Ontario College of Trades first, (see #1 above) and the accommodation must be arranged with the MLTSD prior to scheduling your C of Q exam. Accommodations are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Some examples of exam accommodations are; extra time, a separate room, a translator/interpreter/reader, etc.

There are some trades which offer a practical exam as a form of accommodation. A practical exam involves performing the skills of the trade in front of an examiner rather than answering written questions. Please consult the Ontario College of Trades Exam Preparation Guide for more information on accommodations.”

8. What are the pathways to Apprenticeship? What role do Unions play?

There are a number of different paths to an apprenticeship in Ontario today.

Traditional Route - The person seeking an apprenticeship is responsible for finding an employer who will sponsor him or her. The employer and apprentice register with the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Apprenticeship Office, and sign a Training Agreement that confirms the terms of apprenticeship.

Union or Industry Approved Training – Some unions or trade associations run their own training centres and hold Contracts of Apprenticeship with the apprentice, rather than the employer.

College Route – Many of Ontario’s colleges of applied arts and technology offer diploma programs related to skilled trades. These programs require successful completion of secondary school and can take two or three years to complete. Many of the programs involve a hands-on paid workplace component.

Pre-apprenticeship Programs – These programs provide training in a specific trade to help prepare for apprenticeship. They are less than 52 weeks in length. Organizations offering these programs often assist with job placement.

Private Career Colleges – These programs vary in time, length, and expense and effectiveness in placing students in apprenticeships.

For more information, check out: <https://www.apprenticesearch.com/apprentices/app-basic-information>

9. Is there a place where people can go to get that information about Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship options?

i) <https://www.apprenticesearch.com/trades>

10. Is there a difference between the supports an Apprentice receives by registering online or is it the same as registering in person?

No, every registration goes through MLTSD.

11. What ways does ES support Apprenticeship?

Employment Services (ES) typically offer an "intro to apprenticeship" workshop that could be helpful to learners or even groups of learners. They will also help with career counselling and can definitely make referrals to LBS service providers to support clients looking to enter an apprenticeship or skilled trades path.

12. Is there a pathway for Internationally Trained Trades professionals to get certified in Ontario?

Yes. From the OCOT website:

The Trade Equivalency Assessment process is for experienced tradespeople who have not completed an Ontario apprenticeship but have equivalent qualifications and experience in a trade, and who want to become eligible to challenge the certification examination to obtain an Ontario Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) and/or become a member of the College.

To be approved, you must provide adequate proof that you have hours of experience and demonstrated skills in your trade that are equal to or exceed the standard of training that an Ontario apprentice receives in completion of an apprenticeship program. The standard that must be met for each trade is defined by the trade's Training Standard. To download the Training Standard for your trade, visit: collegeoftrades.ca/training-standards

13. If you have any resources you think are helpful, please share.

i) <https://www.apprenticesearch.com/> There is a section that you can learn more about the trade, skills you need, wages to expect and other good information

- ii) Community Literacy of Ontario did an Apprenticeship and Skilled Trades Resource Sharing Fair webinar recently that was recorded
- iii) For pre-apprenticeship assessment in LBS, I also like using The Common Assessment for the OLACF Goal Paths Resource, it can be accessed through LNO, or Literacy Northwest.
- iv) Watch for the compendium of Skilled Trades/Apprenticeship resources from Mid-North Network, coming by end of this fiscal year. Check with the Networks or Support Organization for assistance.

14. What are examples of other Skilled Trade Diplomas?

Examples of skilled trades diploma programs are cabinetmaking techniques, electrical techniques, Mechanical techniques-Small engine mechanic. You can check local colleges for what they offer.

15. Can we have the link to the Learning to Earning Video?

<https://youtu.be/NwJJZe0nmlY>