

Generally, there are four routes at Olds College of Agriculture & Technology to explore trades-related training:

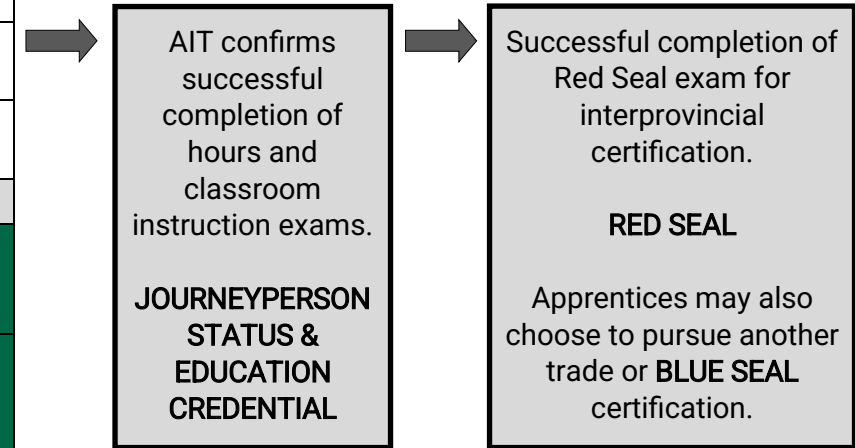
- **DUAL CREDIT:** Olds College of Agriculture & Technology is proud to offer a number of dual credit programs through our partnerships with the Community Learning Campus (CLC). Dual credit programs give high school students a head start on their post-secondary education while still earning high school credits. By offering a variety of accessible and rewarding program opportunities, Olds College is helping high school students develop the attitudes and skills they need to improve their employability in Alberta's dynamic job market.
  - *Course offerings are continuously changing. Please contact your local high school guidance counsellor to discuss options!*
  
- **PRE-EMPLOYMENT:** Pre-employment programs are an apprenticeship preparatory program and are equivalent to the first period of classroom instruction. Traditional apprenticeship classroom instruction is very fast paced and this program offers students an additional four weeks of classroom instruction with our Journey-person-certified instructors! If you are interested in training for a trade, but do not have experience because you can't find employment, then a pre-employment program could provide you with the necessary training and education to make yourself employable. Students graduate with a Certificate and are eligible to write their first period apprenticeship exam if they have a GPA or 2.3 or higher.
  - *The pre-employment programs are delivered over 12 weeks and have an alternate admission option. Olds College of Agriculture & Technology offers the Pre-Employment Heavy Equipment Technician, Pre-Employment Welder, and Pre-Employment Motorcycle Mechanic programs.*
  
- **APPRENTICESHIP:** Apprenticeship is a combination of on-the-job and classroom instruction in an earning-while-learning arrangement that leads to certification as a Journey-person and education credential in a recognized trade. Apprenticeship students are typically employed and working under a qualified tradesperson to become familiar with the principles, skills, tools and materials of a trade. This is the most affordable route students can take to gain their training. Eligibility is managed by Alberta's Apprenticeship & Industry Training (AIT).
  - *Classroom instruction is offered over 8 weeks at various post-secondaries throughout Alberta. Olds College of Agriculture & Technology offers classroom instruction for Agriculture Equipment Technicians (AET), Heavy Equipment Technicians (HET), Landscape Horticulturists, and Welders.*
  - *For eligibility, more information, and to apply to become an apprentice, please visit <https://tradesecrets.alberta.ca/>*
  
- **CERTIFICATE & DIPLOMA:** Olds College of Agriculture & Technology offers full-time programming that aligns with AET and HET apprenticeship training.
  - **Agricultural & Heavy Equipment Certificate & Diploma program:** Start your career in agriculture and heavy equipment repair and get your hands on the newest and largest industry equipment in these programs. Learning from experienced, Journey-person certified, industry-trained instructors, you will receive hands-on education with exposure to an extensive workshop and tool room. This comprehensive program will give you a thorough understanding of engines, hydraulics, braking, electrical, starting, charging, fuel systems, overhauls, and more. Our classrooms are discipline specific (e.g., motor lab, machinery lab) with small student to instructor ratio and personal workbenches.
    - *By the end of the Diploma, students will have spent more than 500 hours in hands-on training and nearly 800 hours in lecture and discipline specific labs.*
    - **Alberta's Apprenticeship & Industry Training - more benefits for students!** If students graduate with a GPA of 2.3 or higher, then they are on track to receive full technical accreditation in their trade after they write their AIT exams. AIT also recognizes a portion of the on-the-job training hours for the apprenticeship requirements; hours are trade dependent. You will also be well placed to obtain your Journey-person and education credentials pending the completion of the remaining on-the-job training hours specified by AIT.
      - *The certificate program is a 1 year, full-time program of study and has academic requirements for admission. After the successful completion of the certificate, students can submit an Intent to Return form to return for an additional year to complete the Diploma.*
      - *Students may choose to return for their second major which requires the completion of an additional two courses and are encouraged to pursue AIT exam challenges for technical accreditation.*





AIT Apprenticeship Period	1	2	3	4
<b>AIT Apprenticeship Term Requirements</b>	One 12-Month Period 8 Weeks Classroom Instruction	One 12-Month Period 8 Weeks Classroom Instruction	One 12-Month Period 8 Weeks Classroom Instruction	One 12-Month Period 8 Weeks Classroom Instruction
<i>AET</i>	1560 Hours On-the-Job Training	1560 Hours On-the-Job Training	1560 Hours On-the-Job Training	1560 Hours On-the-Job Training
<i>HET</i>	1500 Hours On-the-Job Training	1500 Hours On-the-Job Training	1500 Hours On-the-Job Training	1500 Hours On-the-Job Training
<b>Olds College Agricultural &amp; Heavy Equipment Certificate &amp; Diploma</b>	<b>CERTIFICATE (AET and HET)</b>		<b>DIPLOMA (Select Major: AET or HET)</b>	
	Fall Term 15 weeks September to December	Winter Term 15 weeks January to April	Fall Term 15 weeks September to December	Winter Term 15 weeks January to April
	<i>Students will have the opportunity to write their AIT exams at the end of their first year.</i>		<i>Students will have the opportunity to write their AIT exams at the end of their second year.</i>	
<b>Olds College Agreement with AIT's Provincial Apprenticeship Committee</b>	Write P1 Technical Exam for AET or HET (If GPA > 2.3)	Write P2 Technical Exam for AET or HET (If GPA > 2.3)	Write P3 Technical Exam for AET or HET (If GPA > 2.3)	Write P4 Technical Exam for AET or HET (If GPA > 2.3)
	<i>Less 100 hours &amp; 3 months</i>	<i>Less 100 hours &amp; 3 months</i>	<i>Less 200 hours &amp; 3 months</i>	<i>Less 200 hours &amp; 3 months</i>
	<i>Less 300 hours &amp; 4 months</i>	<i>Less 300 hours &amp; 4 months</i>	<i>Less 300 hours &amp; 4 months</i>	<i>Less 300 hours &amp; 4 months</i>
<b>Olds College Pre-Employment HET Certificate</b>	Fall or Winter Term 12 weeks Write P1 Technical Exam for HET (If GPA > 2.3) Less 0 hours & 2 months	Requires minimum GPA & approval by Associate Dean Approved students start in the Agricultural & Heavy Equipment Certificate Winter Term.		

**\*IMPORTANT TRADE EQUIVALENCIES\***  
 AET Period 2 = HET Period 2  
 AET Period 4 = HET Period 3  
  
 HET Period 3 = Off Road  
 HET Period 4 = On Road



- Apply to become an apprentice through AIT and find an employer (sponsor) to have your hours recognized.
- Complete the remaining on-the-job training hours.

- Apply to become an apprentice through AIT and find an employer (sponsor) to have your hours recognized.
- Enter into apprenticeship training for Periods 2-4.