

Landscape Gardener Apprenticeship



Do what you love... Love what you do... Do what you love... Love what you do... Do what you love... Love what you do... Do what you love...



LANDSCAPING CAREERS

This Dynamic program offers an abundance of hands-on learning technologies in both the hard landscape skills of pavers, water gardens, wood construction, irrigation and surveying; balanced with the soft landscape skills of plant identification, tree planting, soil analysis, plant production and landscape design. As a Journeyman Landscape Gardener, you are in high demand within industry employment.

About the Apprenticeship

Apprenticeship is a combination of on-the-job and technical training in an earning-while-learning arrangement that leads to certification as a Journeyman in a recognized trade. The apprenticeship programs at Olds College are under the administration of Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

Apprentices work under a qualified tradesman to become familiar with the principles, skills, tools and materials of a trade. Depending on the trade, the term of apprenticeship varies from two to four years. Olds College provides technical training for four year trades. During this time, apprentices are indentured (under contract) to an employer(s) who provide opportunities for apprentices to work and gain experience in the trade, and to attend in-school technical training.

Apprentices are usually paid an hourly wage, which increases according to their time and experience in the trade. Rate of pay is based on a specific percentage of the prevailing journeyman's wage in their shop.

Registered apprentices receive notification listing the dates for technical training sessions at Olds College, which provides training for their specific trade from Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training. Olds College typically has two intakes of apprentices in any academic year: fall and winter. Apprentices are encouraged to register as soon as they receive their notification in early May to ensure a seat, as spaces are allocated on first come, first serve basis.

What people say about us...

"It's refreshing to learn from instructors who have first hand knowledge of the material we are studying. The knowledge I gained through studying at Olds College, combined with my on-the-job training, gave me the confidence to start my own landscape construction /maintenance company after the third year of my apprenticeship program."

— Bruce Malmstrom

— A Step Above Landscaping

— 4th Year Landscape Gardener



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Program Description

Subject areas for each technical training period are listed below.

First Period Training Topics Include:

Landscape installation, turf care, plant identification and care, horticulture soils, botany, greenhouse production, workplace safety and tools and machinery.

Second Period Training Topics Include:

Landscape construction, greenhouse structures and environments, plant identification, pests and pest management, pesticide use and safety, turf maintenance, basic surveying, and sales and communication.

Third Period Training Topics Include:

Landscape design, interior plantscape maintenance, plant identification, and herbaceous ornamentals in the landscape, plant physiology, irrigation, arboriculture, and plant production.

Fourth Period Training Topics Include:

Landscape design; landscape construction, irrigation, estimating and tendering, plant identification, and nursery and sod production.

Career Opportunities

During your apprenticeship and as a journeyman you can find employment throughout the widely varied horticulture industry. A list of some of the possibilities include:

- landscape construction, installation and maintenance ➤
- parcs/golf course maintenance ➤
- urban tree care ➤
- pest control ➤
- nursery production ➤
- greenhouse production ➤
- sod production ➤
- retail/wholesale horticulture marketing and sales ➤

Depending on your aptitude, interests and experience, you may eventually become self-employed or enjoy the benefits of work for Someone else in the private or public sector in this thriving industry. ➤

Admission Requirements

To enter the Landscape Gardener Apprenticeship program you must be at least 16 years of age and have a minimum of a Grade 9 education or its equivalent, or pass an entrance examination administered by Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

Application Procedure

Apprentices attending Olds College must be first indentured as apprentices in the Province of Alberta unless special circumstances exist.

All applications and inquiries regarding becoming an apprentice should be made to a Regional Service Centre of Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training. Prospective apprentices are encouraged to visit the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Web site www.tradesecrets.gov.ab.ca.



Olds College leads real-life, hands-on education in Canada. We help you explore your passion.



- Business
- Fashion
- Horticulture
- Animal Sciences
- Land & Environment
- Trades & Technology
- Agriculture



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