

For your Information

Updates to the Electrician Apprenticeship Education Program

Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT) is rolling out an updated curriculum for the Electrician Apprentice Education Program (AEP). The changes to the curriculum will ensure Alberta's Electrician training is closer in line with other provinces and territories in Canada. This will make it easier for Electrician apprentices and journeypersons to work in their trade across the country. The new curriculum will also include necessary instruction on new technologies.

Background

Red Seal Standards

The Red Seal program along with ten Canadian provinces/territories have two separate Electrician trade designations:

- Construction Electrician, and
- Industrial Electrician.

Alberta Program

Electrician apprentices and journeypersons are trained and authorized to work in Alberta's residential, commercial, and industrial sectors within the province. Alberta's Electrician apprenticeship education program is aligned with the Red Seal standard for Construction Electrician.

Why AIT is Updating the Curriculum

The new curriculum will ensure Alberta's Electrician apprenticeship program will include content to meet both Construction Electrician and Industrial Electrician standards.

What you need to know

- The new curriculum began in the 2024-25 school year for periods 1 and 2, and 2025-26 for periods 3 and 4.



2024-25:

1st and 2nd
periods
updated.



2025-26:

3rd and 4th
periods
updated.

- The total number of hours apprentices will spend on their program will remain the same with some slight reallocations between classroom and on-the-job hours in the 3rd and 4th period:

	Classroom	On-the-job
Period 3	+60 hours (now 10 weeks)	-60 hours (now 1,500 hours)
Period 4	-60 hours (now 10 weeks)	+60 hours (now 1,500 hours)

- In 2025-26, 4th period Individual Learning Module packages will include all previous 4th period content that was moved into 3rd period.
 - Students in the 4th period will be encouraged to review/self-study the additional content provided in preparation for their Red Seal exam.
 - SAIT will offer an online course that apprentices anywhere in the province can access to review this content.
- The new curriculum guide includes the following changes:
 - **1st period** has new content on photovoltaic electrical generation.
 - **2nd period** has a new section detailing the charging of electric vehicles and a streamlined section on heating and ventilation controls.
 - **3rd period** adds machine topics previously taught in 4th period.
 - **4th period** adds new content on building automation, pneumatic and hydraulic control systems, harmonics, and renewable energy systems. Additionally, content on fire alarms has been updated and streamlined.
- Current electrician apprentices will not need to begin a new record book or lose any progress they have already completed.
- The updated curriculum guide has received support from the Alberta Board of Skilled Trades, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta, and post-secondary institutions.