

APPRENTICESHIP TECHNICAL TRAINING

TUITION FEES WILL BE COVERED FOR APPRENTICES

For all active employers and apprentices, please be aware that, effective September 2017, tuition fees for apprentices attending apprenticeship technical training in Nova Scotia will be removed.

Click [HERE](#) for a Q & A.

On September 5th, Labour and Advanced Education Minister Labi Kousoulis announced the removal of tuition fees for apprentices attending technical training in Nova Scotia. Making training more affordable will enable more apprentices to earn their certification, increase their earning potential and take full advantage of opportunities here in the province.

Nova Scotia's apprenticeship system – administered by the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency – prepares apprentices for jobs in the skilled trades. Technical training is a requirement of the apprenticeship program, and is needed for apprentices to progress to certification. Apprentices typically complete a six to ten-week level of technical training after every 1800 hours of on-the-job training, until they become certified in their trade.

The removal of apprenticeship technical training tuition – to be applied beginning with September's classes – will save apprentices up to nine-hundred dollars per year.

Questions and Answers | Tuition Waiver

How much does apprenticeship technical training cost?

Tuition for technical training ranges from \$540-\$900 a year, depending on the number of weeks of training needed. Training typically ranges from 6-10 weeks.

We're making training more affordable so that more of our apprentices, especially young people, can earn their certification, increase their earning potential, and take full advantage of opportunities here in the province.

How many apprentices attend technical training each year?

Approximately 2200 apprentices attend technical training each year. Depending on the trade, apprentices may be required to attend technical training over three, four, or five years.

Will those who already paid for September's classes be reimbursed?

Yes. Any apprentice who has already paid tuition for September's training will be fully reimbursed. This includes the upfront fee paid to the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency at the point of enrolment.

Will the tuition removal apply to apprentices' online training as well?

Yes. The removal of tuition fees applies to all technical training, including training delivered online.

Are there other fees apprentices have to pay to attend technical training?

No. However, there are costs for books and supplies that must be paid to the training provider.

What will this cost the province/taxpayers?

We have budgeted \$1.3 M a year to support the removal of tuition. This investment will help make training more affordable for apprentices and help us build and retain the workforce the province needs.

You recently aligned training in the Atlantic region to make it easier for apprentices from New Brunswick, PEI and Newfoundland to take their technical training here. Will the removal of tuition apply to these out of province apprentices as well?

Yes. The removal of tuition will apply to any apprentice attending technical training in the province. The Agency ensures that Nova Scotia apprentices are served first before enrolling any apprentice from out of province.

The intent behind our regional and inter-provincial efforts is to help more apprentices access the training they need more quickly and more easily. The removal of tuition certainly supports these efforts.

No one would argue the benefit of supporting apprentices in their studies, but student groups have long been lobbying for reduced tuitions. What are you doing to support them and reduce the significant financial burden they face from rising tuitions?

The province has a great student assistance program. Provincial loans are interest-free, and there are up-front bursaries and grants that students don't have to repay.

Nova Scotia offers students almost \$30,000 in student assistance that they don't have to pay back.

To lower the cost of university, we also provide an annual bursary to all Nova Scotian students who study in the province. Our Loan Forgiveness Program can completely wipe out student loans for NS students, saving them up to \$15,000.

For further information, please contact:

Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency
1256 Barrington Street, 3rd Floor
Halifax NS B3J 2S9
Tel. 902.424.5651 Toll Free. 1.800.494.5651 Fax. 902-424.0717
www.nsapprenticeship.ca