

Agricultural Equipment Technician

Frequently asked questions



1. How can I obtain a Certificate of Qualification in Nova Scotia?



There are currently two ways to obtain certification in the Agricultural Equipment Technician [AET] trade in Nova Scotia:

- ✓ Apprenticeship Training (Requires an employer – See question #2)
- ✓ Trade Qualifier program (Individuals with significant experience who wish to challenge the Red Seal Exam – See question #8)

2. How can I participate in Apprenticeship Training?

To register as an apprentice you must have an employer and a journeyperson mentor to supervise your work. Apprenticeship training consists of both time on-the-job and a technical training component, and takes approximately four years to complete [see [trade regulations](#)].

In the workplace, apprentices are supervised by a certified journeyperson. The certified journeyperson supervises their work and plays a critical role in training and evaluating the apprentice in the practical skills of the trade. A logbook is used to track the apprentice's hours and competence in the practical skills of the trade.

The technical training component for this trade consists of four periods of in-school training (training is common with the Heavy Duty Equipment Technician trade), along with the completion of self-directed Individual Learning Modules [ILMs] that are specific to the Agricultural Equipment Technician trade.

3. What are the Alberta Individual Learning Modules [ILMs] and how do I access them?

The Alberta Individual Learning Modules are self-directed units which cover the sub-tasks of the NOA. The ILMs can be purchased from the NSCC Bookstore, along with other required textbooks. Required textbooks and resources should be purchased prior to attending technical training.

4. What if I don't feel able to complete the self-directed units, even before I start?

There is the possibility of taking training in another jurisdiction, such as New Brunswick, if you do not feel that the self-study of ILMs is a good option for you. Speak with your Training Consultant about potential options.



Recognition of prior learning
If you have prior work experience or trades-training in your trade or a related trade, you may be eligible for advanced standing in an apprenticeship program. Talk to a Training Consultant.

AET Apprenticeship Training pathway

4-yr Program	Requirements for Progression
Level 1 Apprentice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Register as an AET apprentice ✓ Complete HDET Level 1 technical training ✓ Complete required on-the-job hours ✓ Ongoing training and evaluation in the workplace practical skills [AET logbook]
Level 2 Apprentice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete HDET Level 2 technical training ✓ Complete required on-the-job hours ✓ Ongoing training and evaluation in the workplace practical skills [AET logbook] ✓ Begin the mandatory ILMs listed in the AET logbook [these can be worked on during levels 2 to 4]. All ILMs must be completed prior to completion of level 4
Level 3 Apprentice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete HDET Level 3 technical training ✓ Complete required on-the-job hours ✓ Ongoing training and evaluation in the workplace practical skills [AET logbook]
Level 4 Apprentice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete HDET Level 4 technical training ✓ Complete required on-the-job hours ✓ Complete all ILMs ✓ Complete all mandatory practical skills in AET logbook [signed-off] ✓ Pass the Red Seal Certification Exam



5. Will I be eligible for grants for participating in apprenticeship training?

Yes! As a registered apprentice, you will be eligible for apprenticeship grants after completing each level of your apprenticeship training program [\$1000 after level 1; \$1000 after L2; \$750 after L3; \$2000 after getting your Red Seal].

You will have to apply for these grants. Visit the Agency website for info.

6. How can I get certified in both the HDET and AET trades?

- ⚙️ You can register as an apprentice in both trades simultaneously;
OR
- ⚙️ If you are a certified HDET [or Truck and Transport Mechanic], you may be eligible to receive 50% of the apprenticeship hours towards Agricultural Equipment Technician when you register as an AET apprentice; OR
- ⚙️ If you are a certified AET and register as a Heavy Duty Equipment Technician [or Truck and Transport Mechanic] apprentice, you may also be eligible for credit of transferable hours



Register in AET and HDET
You can register in more than one trade simultaneously. This works well, as HDET and AET have combined technical training. You must complete the requirements of both trades [e.g., trade-specific hours, practical skills, etc.]

7. Can I get credit for my pre-employment training?

Yes! When you register as an apprentice, you will be eligible to receive the approved credit as identified in the chart below.



Institution	Program Name
NSCC	✓ Heavy Duty Equipment/Truck and Transport Repair Certificate [1-yr]
NSCC	✓ Heavy Duty Equipment/Truck and Transport Repair Diploma [2-yr]
NSCC	✓ Diesel Repair – Industrial and Marine Certificate [one year]
Memorial High School	✓ Heavy Duty Mechanic Program



If you have completed a program that is not identified in the chart above, you may still be eligible for credit. Please contact your Training Consultant.

As well, the Agency has a policy regarding time limitations on the granting of credit. Graduates may receive the pre-established credit if they register as apprentices within:

- ✓ Two years of completion of the program; or
- ✓ Two to five years of completion of the program [with proof of relevant trade employment]; OR
- ✓ Six to ten years of completion of the program [must pass an apprenticeship exam].

8. How can I apply under the Trade Qualifier program to Challenge the Red Seal Exam?

The Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency will approve individuals to challenge the Red Seal Examination (Red Seal Exam) if they can provide proof they:

- ✓ have the required hours of hands-on work experience in the trade [see trade regs], and
- ✓ can provide two qualified references who can attest to their skills in the trade.

Individuals who pass the Red Seal exam will be issued a Nova Scotia Certificate of Qualification with the Red Seal endorsement, which is recognized across Canada.

For more information on the Trade Qualifier process [and fee], including how to apply for the Red Seal exam, please contact the Industry Training Consultant for your trade region.



FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Contact an Industry Training Consultant:

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(902) 424-5651; 1-800-494-5651 [within NS only]