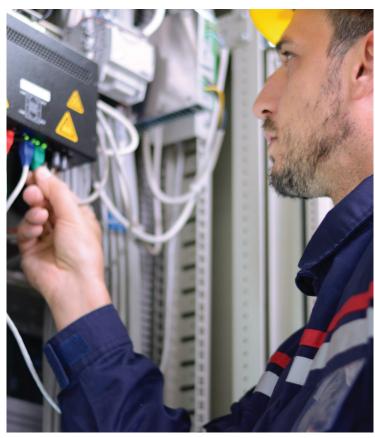


# **Communication Technician**

#### About this job

Communication technicians belong to an industry that helps make modern day-to-day life convenient and efficient. Opportunities may range from work indoors in people's homes and businesses, to outdoors in remote wilderness areas.



COMMUNICATION TECHNICIAN FALLS UNDER NATIONAL OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATION (NOC) CODE #7245/7246/72204



- Four-year program
- Requires out of the territory technical training
- Construction

\$76,960
Estimated Average Journeyperson Salary

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APPRENTICESHIP, TRADES, AND OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATION

## What can I expect to do for work if I become a Communication Technician?

Communication Technicians install and maintain wired or wireless networks for consumer and business communications. They also maintain and repair various types of radio frequency (RF), transmission and switching equipment used to provide communication services.

- To perform these functions, they must be:
- · skilful at using hand and power tools,
- trained in the products they support,
- capable of integrating wired and wireless technologies, and
- skilled at testing procedures to locate faults and isolate defective components.

Installers working in customers' homes and businesses must be courteous, tactful and adaptable.

#### What kind of working conditions can I expect?

Working conditions vary greatly for communication technicians, depending upon the specific duties involved. Some work is primarily outdoors, while some is primarily indoors. Travel, shift work and overtime may be required. Safe work practices are mandatory.

## What are some skills that are valued in this profession?

The work is most rewarding for those who enjoy learning new and emerging technologies, and doing precise work that sometimes requires creativity. To be successful in their trade, communication technicians must have:

- · mechanical ability and technical aptitude,
- analytical ability, and
- good oral and written communication skills.

## What is the minimum requirement to become an apprentice in this trade?

Apprentices must obtain a minimum of 70% on the Trades Entrance Exam – TEE Category #2 or the equivalent education as outlined below. This must be done before signing the Apprenticeship contract and attending technical training

## How long will it take to complete a Communication Technician apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship takes about four years to complete and includes four on the job periods and four technical training periods. You need to complete 1800 hours per period, for a total of 7200 hours.

#### How long is technical training?

Apprentices will attend 780 technical training hours. Apprentices usually go to school for this program in **Alberta**.

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

Entrance Exam – Pass Exam 5 with a score of 70% or higher

or

Completion of the following high school courses

- English 20-2 (pass) or Literacy 30 (pass)
- Math 10C (pass)
- Science 10 (pass)

or

All five Canadian General Educational Development (GED) tests

**SCHOOLS NORTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (SNAP) - SNAP** apprentices are not required to satisfy the entrance requirements prior to signing an apprenticeship contract. However, the SNAP apprentice must satisfy the entrance requirements **or** write the TEE before attending technical training.

Period	Technical Training <sup>1</sup>	Prerequisites for technical training	Hours <sup>2</sup>
1st	6 Weeks 180 hours	Entrance Exam and 900 hours	1800
2nd	6 Weeks 180 hours	Completed 1 <sup>st</sup> Period	3600
3rd	6 Weeks 180 hours	Completed 2 <sup>nd</sup> Period	5400
4th	8 Weeks 240 hours	Completed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Period	7200

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Length of In-School Training

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Minimum Time Required to Complete (Includes Technical Training)