



Auto Body Technician

About this job

Auto body technicians repair the damaged structures and body parts of motor vehicles. The trade includes technical, mechanical, and creative work, restoring both the safety and cosmetic appeal of a wide range of vehicles.



AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN HOLDS NATIONAL OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATION (NOC) CODE #7322/72411



- **Four-year program**
- **Eligible for Red Seal Endorsement**
- **Requires out of the territory technical training**
- **High Demand Trade**
- **Mechanical Industry**

\$84,243

Estimated Average Journeyperson Salary

APPRENTICESHIP, TRADES, AND OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATION

Aussi disponible en français

What can I expect to do for work if I become an Auto Body Technician?

Duties performed include:

- use frame machines to straighten bent frames and unitized bodies,
- remove badly damaged sections of vehicles and weld in new sections,
- repair damage to body panels and weld sheet metal,
- apply masking to the bumpers, windows and trim and use a spray gun to apply primer,
- clean and smooth the surface before applying the finish,
- repair and/or replace interior and exterior components such as instrument panels, seat frame assemblies, carpets and floorboard insulation, trim panels and mouldings,
- replace accident damage components, airbags and restraint systems, and
- inspect vehicles for dimensional accuracy and test drive them to ensure proper alignment.

What kind of working conditions can I expect?

Auto body technicians usually work a 40-hour, five-day week with occasional overtime required. They work indoors in a noisy, sometimes dusty, environment. Although most shops are well ventilated, the work involves exposure to dust and fumes. There is always some risk of injury involved in working with sharp metals and power tools.

Eligibility Requirements

Entrance Exam – Pass Exam 3 with a score of 70% or higher

or

Completion of the following high school courses

- English 10-2 (pass) or Literacy 20 (65% or higher)
- Math 10C (pass) or Math 10-3 (65% or higher)
- 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.

What are some skills that are valued in this profession?

- strength, stamina and the use of proper lifting techniques to handle heavy tools and parts,
- hand skills to perform technical repairs,
- creativity, patience and an eye for detail,
- good colour vision,
- current knowledge of the changes in plastics, electronics, metals, finishes and vehicle systems,
- computer literacy skills,
- good customer service skills, and
- commitment to safe work habits and industry safety programs.

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 #3** 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 an Auto Body 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 four levels of technical training, for a total of 780 technical training hours. Apprentices usually go to school for this program in **Alberta**.

Period	Technical Training ¹	Prerequisites for technical training	Hours ²
1st	6 Weeks 180 hours	Entrance Exam and 900 hours	1800
2nd	6 Weeks 180 hours	Completed 1 st Period	3600
3rd	7 Weeks 210 hours	Completed 2 nd Period	5400
4th	7 Weeks 210 hours	Completed 3 rd Period	7200

¹Length of In-School Training

²Minimum Time Required to Complete (Includes Technical Training)

For more information:

www.gov.nt.ca/Apprenticeship