



Auto Body Technician – Auto Body Repairer

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.



- Three-year program
- Requires out of the territory technical training
- Mechanical Industry



**AUTO BODY REPAIRER FALLS UNDER NATIONAL OCCUPATION
CLASSIFICATION (NOC) CODE #7322/72411**

\$84,243

Estimated Average Journeyperson Salary

APPRENTICESHIP, TRADES, AND OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATION

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

Auto body repairers do damage appraisals, frame and unibody structural repairs, body sheet-metal work, plastic repairs, component replacement and alignment.

Auto body repairers rely on precise specification charts and use sophisticated repair systems to restore damaged vehicles. All passenger vehicles are manufactured today where each body panel contributes to the integral strength of the vehicle, maximizing passenger protection. Supplemental restraint systems such as air bags and seat belts are a big part of the auto body repairer's workload.

Auto body repairers are responsible for restoring the structural integrity of damaged vehicles during the repair process. This includes removing damaged components and welding in replacement components. Precise work is critical to restore the vehicle to its pre-damaged condition and to ensure that suspension and steering components are accurately aligned.

Auto body repairers remove and install bolt-on components such as hoods, deck lids, fenders, trim, doors, glass, and interior components. They verify dimensional accuracy, system functions, passenger protection and finally, test drive the vehicle to ensure proper alignment and handling.

Complex colour formulations created by automobile manufacturers require that refinishers develop a high skill level in both product chemistry and colour matching.

What kind of working conditions can I expect?

Auto body repairers 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.

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 restraints,
- 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 Repairer apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship takes about three years to complete and includes three on the job periods and three technical training periods. You need to complete 1800 hours per period, totaling 5400 hours.

How long is technical training?

Apprentices will attend technical training for 600 hours. Apprentices usually go to school for this program in **Alberta**.

Eligibility Requirements
Entrance Exam – Pass Exam 3 with a score of 70% or higher
or
Completion of the following high school courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.

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

¹Length of In-School Training

²Minimum Time Required to Complete (Includes Technical Training)

For more information:

www.gov.nt.ca/Apprenticeship