



Auto Body Technician

Learn to repair and replace damaged motor vehicle structures, body parts, interior and exterior finishes.

If you are creative and like being hands-on while performing precise work, you'll enjoy working in the auto body trade. In Alberta, auto body journeypersons may specialize as auto body preppers, repairers, refinishers or technicians.

- Auto body preppers are responsible for the restoration of anti-corrosion treatments, substrate identification, surface preparation, undercoat product mixing and application.
- Auto body refinishers do damage appraisals, surface preparation, minor damage repairs, masking, accurate colour matching and top coating. Refinishers may also do restoration of anti-corrosion treatments, substrate identification, product mixing and application.
- Auto body refinishers do damage appraisals, surface preparation, minor damage repairs, masking, accurate colour matching, priming and top coating. Refinishers may also do restoration of anti-corrosion treatments, substrate identification, product mixing and application.
- Auto body repairers do damage appraisals, frame and unibody structural repairs, body sheet metal work, plastic repairs, component replacement and alignment.
- Auto body technicians are trained to do all tasks in the auto body trade. They may specialize in damage appraisals, frame straightening, surface preparation, sheet metal work and refinishing.

This is a compulsory trade - to work in this trade you need to hold a recognized trade certificate or be a registered apprentice.

Is this the right fit for me?

Students who have the following characteristics see greater success in the auto body trade:

- good customer service and communication skills
- creativity, patience and an eye for detail
- the strength and stamina required to handle heavy tools and parts
- manual dexterity
- good colour vision
- the willingness to keep learning as manufacturers make changes in plastics, electronics, metals, supplemental restraints and paints
- a commitment to safe work habits.

Credentials

Upon successfully completing the required working hours and apprenticeship education periods, graduates will be awarded journeyperson status by Alberta's Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

Auto body technicians and auto body refinishers are Red Seal Endorsed trades –a recognizable standard that allows tradespeople to work across Canada.

Auto body prepper and auto body repairer are not a Red Seal Endorsed trade.

Admission requirements

To enter an apprenticeship, you must have the educational qualifications required or recommended education for the trade to which you apply.

Entrance Requirements are monitored and set by Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

Minimum requirements

Successful completion of the following courses:

- English 10-2
- Math 10-3
- Science 10

OR

A pass mark in all five Canadian General Educational Development (GED) tests

OR

Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Entrance Exam

Recommended path

Apprentices with an Alberta High School Diploma that includes the following courses:

- English 30-2
- Math 30-3
- Physics 20 OR Chemistry 20 OR Science 20
- Related career and technology studies (CTS) courses

How to register

Registration for apprenticeship education is run through Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training. Learn [how you can register](#) for your next intake.

Apprenticeship and Industry Training Client Services

1.800.248.4823

tradesecrets.alberta.ca

Suite 200 Willow Park Centre
10325 Bonaventure DR. SE
Calgary, AB

After you register

Email is the primary source of communication after you have registered for your intake. Please ensure your personal email account is managed appropriately to receive our emails, files and communications. We recommend you add the sait.ca domain to your safe senders' list or you risk missing critical email messages.

[Next steps >](#)

When do classes start?

Registration for the 2022/23 academic year will open May 10, 2022.

Period	Start date	End date
1 or 3	Sept. 19, 2022	Oct. 28, 2022
2	Nov. 7, 2022	Dec. 16, 2022
4	Jan. 3, 2023	Feb. 17, 2023
3	March 6, 2023	April 21, 2023
4	May 8, 2023	June 23, 2023

Costs 2023/24

Tuition and fees*

The following costs are effective as of July 1, 2023.

Auto Body Technician

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees	Total
1	6	\$792	\$247	\$54	\$1,093
2	6	\$792	\$247	\$54	\$1,093
3	7	\$924	\$247	\$63	\$1,234
4	7	\$924	\$247	\$63	\$1,234

Auto Body Technician - Auto Body Prepper

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees	Total
1	6	\$792	\$247	\$54	\$1,093

Auto Body Technician - Auto Body Refinisher

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees	Total
1	6	\$792	\$247	\$54	\$1,093
2	6	\$792	\$247	\$54	\$1,093

Auto Body Technician - Auto Body Repairer

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees	Total
1	6	\$792	\$247	\$54	\$1,093
2	7	\$924	\$247	\$63	\$1,234
3	7	\$924	\$247	\$63	\$1,234
4	7	\$924	\$247	\$63	\$1,234

Fees breakdown

SAIT fees	Cost per period
Lab and materials fee	\$90
Student support fee	\$52.75
Student technology fee	\$52.75
Campus recreation fee	\$51.50
Total	\$247

Saitsa fee per week: \$9

[Learn more about what your fees are for](#)

Books and supplies*

- Books or modules along with other items for class average out to \$600 per period.
- It is recommended that you do not purchase books or modules ahead of time as they might be outdated by the time you attend

classes and they cannot be returned to the bookstore.

- Personal protective equipment will be required for the program, which may be an additional cost to apprentices.

Financial aid options

*Tuition, fees, books, and supply costs are subject to change.