Bricklayer

SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION

Overview

Learn to prepare and lay brick and other masonry units to build and fix structures such as partitions, patios, arches, fireplaces and chimneys.

As a bricklayer apprentice, you'll also learn about the materials and equipment needed to construct, repair and maintain structures and wall systems. This includes grouted walls, veneer walls, insulation vapour barriers and refractory systems like kilns, smokestacks, boilers and more.

You'll work with different mortars and materials like brick, concrete block, stone, mechanically fastened panels, firebrick, acid tile/brick and other castable refractories. Becoming familiar with commercial, residential, and industrial masonry practices and techniques will make you a knowledgeable and well-rounded tradesperson.

As a bricklayer, you'll:

- read and understand drawings and blueprints
- estimate materials needed for a project
- measure from an established starting point and use a trowel and masons' level to build walls of various heights
- spread mortar over the base of a previous course of bricks and lay bricks into position
- remove extra mortar once a brick (or other masonry material) is in position
- use tools like a hammer, chisel or masonry saw to cut masonry materials to fit as needed.

By the end of your training, you'll know about different types of mortar and other materials used in bricklaying and how to work with them.

Traits, skills and aptitudes

Bricklayers are skilled tradespeople with a knack for creativity, are highly motivated, and enjoy working collaboratively.

If you enjoy solving problems and possess a natural ability to bring a concept to life from beginning to end, you'll do well in this line of work.

To succeed in this trade, you should:

- be interested in design
- be comfortable working with heavy tools and materials
- know how to use proper lifting techniques
- have manual dexterity and a good sense of balance
- be a team player
- enjoy working with customers
- have an eye for detail, line and proportion
- be committed to maintaining health and safety in the workplace.

Credentials

Upon successfully completing the required working hours and technical training periods, you'll be awarded a diploma in addition to journeyperson status by Alberta's Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

This is a Red Seal Endorsed trade – a recognizable standard that allows tradespeople to work across Canada.

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

OR

- A pass mark in all five Canadian General Educational Development (GED) or Canadian Adult Education Credential (CAEC) tests

OR

- Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Entrance exam.

Recommended requirements

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

Costs

2026/27 tuition and fees

The following costs are effective as of July 1, 2026.

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total
1	8	$1,256	$357.50	$1,613.50
2	8	$1,256	$357.50	$1,613.50
3	8	$1,256	$357.50	$1,613.50
			Total cost:	**$4,840.50**

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees in each period of technical training.

Domestic Students

Books and Supplies

This is a bring-your-own-device program with standard computer hardware and software requirements. See the specific requirements on our computers and laptops page.

Books or modules, along with other items for classes, are approximately $300 per period.

We recommend you don't 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.

This program requires personal protective equipment (PPE), which may be an additional cost.