



Materials Technician

Learn to be an integral part of the movement of materials in a wide variety of industries including agriculture, forestry, health, manufacturing, mining, oil and gas, transportation and retail industries.

If you like taking a methodical approach to your work, operating and handling equipment and keeping detailed records, you'll enjoy working as a Materials Technician. They are employed by organizations that produce, process and retail a wide variety of products.

In general, you will:

- prepare, generate, pick and ships orders
- receive shipments and ensure they are complete and in good order
- process customer and supplier returns
- apply inventory management practices and maintain accurate inventory records
- schedule and arrange transportation of materials using rail, air or road
- calculate transportation costs and prepare transportation documents
- maintain material identification records inventory
- interact with internal and external customers
- operate computer systems
- operate material handling equipment (dollies, hand trucks, pallet jacks, forklifts, cranes, conveyors)
- handle and store products in appropriate storage areas
- supervise warehouse personnel
- participate in business operations and planning
- participate in safety programs
- design and plan warehouses
- practice Total Quality Management (TQM)

Materials technicians may be employed in many different settings and work with a wide variety of materials. Job requirements and responsibilities can vary considerably from one job to another.

This is a non-compulsory trade — individuals can work in the trade without certification if the employer deems the individual to have the skills of a journeyman. However, individuals who are working in the trade and learning the trade must become a registered apprentice.

Is this the right fit for me?

To be successful in the trade, materials technicians must have:

- physical strength and stamina
- manual dexterity
- the ability to use proper lifting techniques to lift items up to 18 kilograms
- the ability to work independently
- good math, communication and computer skills
- the ability to get along well with customers and fellow workers

Credentials

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

Costs 2022/23

Tuition and fees*

Period	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees	Total
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Period	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees	Total
1	\$720	\$231	\$54	\$1,005
2	\$720	\$231	\$54	\$1,005
3	\$720	\$231	\$54	\$1,005

SAIT fees

Campus recreation fee: \$49

Lab and material fee: \$82

Student support fee: \$50

Student technology fee: \$50

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.

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

[Learn more about paying for your apprenticeship >](#)