



# Pre-employment Pipetrades

The Pre-Employment Pipetrades program is designed to offer an alternate route to those looking to enter into the pipe trades.

Over the course of this 12-week program, you are taught the skills and theory of the first period of technical training for the common year of **Gasfitter**, **Plumber**, and **Steamfitter-Pipefitter** apprenticeship programs along with additional safety and tools training necessary for the industry.

As a Pre-Employment Pipetrades student, you will learn to lay out, assemble, fabricate, maintain and repair piping systems that carry water, steam, chemicals or fuel used in heating, cooling, lubricating and other processes. You will learn the skills needed to become a Gasfitter, Plumber or Steamfitter-Pipefitter.

For plumbing, you will learn how to plan, install and service plumbing systems, fixtures, piping equipment, and controls. These piping systems may be used to transport water, waste, gases or hot liquids.

Steamfitter-pipefitter is a pipe trade that deals with the installation, maintenance, and repair of piping systems, but differs from other pipe trades in relation to where the work is performed, the types of piping involved, and the training that is required. You will learn to install a typical piping system in a commercial building or industrial plant, study blueprints, drawings, and specifications to determine the type of pipe and tools to use, and lay out the sequence of tasks.

For Gasfitting, you will learn to set up propane equipment ranging from residential furnaces to industrial boilers. Gasfitters employed by utility companies repair and extend gas mains and install, repair, and service pipes and fittings between mains and buildings.

Upon successful completion of this 12-week program, you may be eligible to write the first-period pipe trades exam from Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT) at an additional cost.

## Credentials

Upon successful completion of the program, students will receive a SAIT certificate and may be eligible to challenge the written and practical exams for the first-year apprenticeship.

Following graduation, you will have a lot of different options for employment. You may decide to work as a gasfitter, plumber, or steamfitter-pipefitter. It will be your responsibility to find an employer who will indenture you as an apprentice.

## Admission requirements

### Application dates

Applications are accepted until the program start date but are subject to change.

- **Fall 2022 start:** applications opened on Oct. 6, 2021.
- **Winter 2023:** applications opened on March 31, 2022.

### Program requirements

Successful completion of the following courses or equivalents:

- Math 20-1, Math 20-2, Math 20-3, or Applied Math 20, AND,

- English Language Arts 20-1 or English Language Arts 20-2, AND,
- Science 10
- A pass mark in the [SAIT Admission Examination \(level 4\)](#) is accepted in lieu of the above requirements.

**Note:** General Educational Development (GED) tests are **not** accepted in lieu of the admission requirements.

All applicants must demonstrate [English language proficiency](#) prior to admission, including students educated in Canada.

SAIT accepts [high school course equivalents](#) for admission. If you don't meet the requirements, consider [Academic Upgrading](#).

SAIT evaluates international documents for admissions. After you've applied, consider our [international document assessment](#) service if your education is from outside of Canada.

## Direct entry: Four-step process

**Step 1:** Read the program information to see the qualities needed for student success.

**Step 2:** Ensure that you meet all of the admission requirements listed above.

**Step 3:** [Apply](#) to Pre-Employment Pipetrades and [submit your transcripts and/or anticipated final grades](#).

- Admission will be extended on a first-qualified, first-offered basis until the program is full.

**Step 4:** Find out how to monitor your [application status](#).

## Communication during admission

Email is the primary source of communication during the selection process. Ensure your personal email account is managed appropriately to receive our emails, files and communications. We recommend you add the [construction.advising@sait.ca](mailto:construction.advising@sait.ca) domain to your safe senders' list or you risk missing critical email messages.

## Costs 2022/23

### Domestic tuition and fees

Cost per credit: \$458

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees*	Total
1	2	\$5,496	\$149	n/a	\$5,645

### SAIT fees

- Campus athletic and recreation fee: \$49
- Universal transit pass (Upass): n/a
- Student support fee: \$50
- Student technology fee: \$50

This program is eligible for [Canada Alberta Job Grant funding](#)

### Saitsa fees

### Student Association fees

Students registered in pre-employment programs do not pay student association fees.

### Health and dental fees

Students registered in pre-employment programs are not eligible for health and dental plans.

## **Books and supplies\***

Books and supplies are approximately \$1,000 per full-time year.

For an estimate of the costs associated with purchasing a computer that meets the program's hardware and software requirements, see our [computers and laptops page](#).

Learn more about [tuition and financial aid](#).

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