Roofer

SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION

Overview

Learn how to prepare and apply protective coverings to flat and sloped roof surfaces using construction plans and specifications.

Depending on the roofing system, you may install vapour/air barriers or insulation, apply hot bitumen with roofing felt, lay waterproof membranes and install flashing to seal the roof and prevent leaks. Flat roofs use systems like hot-applied asphalt, elastomeric (rubber-like), thermoplastic and modified bitumen (asphalt and plastic) membranes.

As a roofer, you'll:

- work with shingles made of a variety of materials, including asphalt, fibreglass, concrete, clay, rubber, slate, wood shakes or metal for sloped residential roofs
- apply membranes, organic or synthetic felt before applying shingles
- nail shingles in overlapping rows
- cement and nail flashings over joints around vent pipes or chimneys
- inspect roof problems to determine the best way to repair them
- estimate quote costs and what materials are needed
- repair older roofs
- waterproof roofs, basements, foundations and parkades
- install green/vegetated roof components
- incorporate new roofing technology, such as non-conventional solar roofing.

Traits, skills and aptitudes

Roofers are skilled tradespeople who like collaborating with others, being physically active and are comfortable working at heights.

This line of work is most fulfilling for those who enjoy working outdoors with their hands with a variety of customers.

To succeed in this trade, you should:

- enjoy physically engaging work
- have good customer service skills
- have good hand-eye coordination
- have the strength and stamina to carry heavy materials
- be sure-footed and comfortable working at heights
- enjoy working with a team
- be committed to maintaining safe working conditions.

Credentials

Upon successfully completing the required working hours and technical training periods, you'll be awarded a certificate 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

There are no minimum requirements for the roofer trade.

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	6	$942	$338	$1,280
2	6	$942	$338	$1,280
3	6	$942	$338	$1,280
			Total cost:	**$3,840**

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

Books and Supplies

This is a bring-your-own-device program with a standard computer hardware and software requirement. 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.