Transport and Heavy Equipment Technology

SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION

Overview

Our Transport and Heavy Equipment Technology program offers comprehensive training for those looking to enter the fields of transport and heavy equipment maintenance and repair.

With a focus on real-world skills, the program combines classroom learning, online courses and hands-on shop experience to provide you with the necessary expertise in diagnosing, installing, maintaining and repairing various types of transport vehicles and off-road heavy equipment.

In this program, you will:

- engage with modern equipment and diagnostic tools through practical exercises and hands-on training
- gain knowledge in mechanical, electrical and hydraulic systems, among others
- develop the soft skills in communication and business training needed for career advancement
- get real-world experience and apprenticeship training between the second and third semesters with an optional work-integrated learning component.

As a graduate, you will be equipped for work in various sectors, including light and heavy construction, oil field support, forestry, mining, marine, transportation, public utilities and agriculture.

If you'd like to progress into an apprenticeship and earn your journeyperson designation, our advisors can assist with career planning.

Benefit from the program's strong ties with industry leaders for potential employment opportunities.

The program is designed to be responsive, ensuring that graduates are job-ready and equipped with the knowledge and skills that reflect industry standards and are in high demand.

Traits, skills and aptitudes

Those in transport and heavy equipment technology tend to be objective, methodical and innovative.

You need:

- good vision, hearing and sense of smell to diagnose problems
- strength and stamina for working with heavy equipment in cramped or awkward positions
- mechanical ability
- the ability to work alone or as part of a team
- the ability to think logically
- an interest in all types of machinery and engines, electronics and precision equipment.

You should enjoy doing precision work, solving problems and working with your hands.

Practicum, Co-op and Work Integrated Learning

You can complete an optional 15-week work term between your second and third semesters, where you can work in industry and become registered as an apprentice.

Please note: International students are not eligible to register in or participate in optional work-integrated learning opportunities, as optional placements do not meet current IRCC requirements for student work placements.

Accreditations, designations and certifications

This program aligns with Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT) curriculum for Heavy Equipment Technicians, periods one through four.

Graduates are eligible to challenge the technical training exams.

Upon passing, you can register as an apprentice and complete the on-the-job training hours to earn your journeyperson designation.

Credentials

After successfully completing this program, you'll be awarded a SAIT Transport and Heavy Equipment Technology diploma.

Admission requirements

Applicants educated in Canada

Applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency and completion of the following courses or equivalents:

- at least 50% in Math 20-1 or Math 20-2 or 60% in Math 20-3, and
- at least 50% in English Language Arts 30-1 or English Language Arts 30-2 , and
- at least 50% in one Grade 11 Science.

If you have graduated from SAIT's Diesel Equipment Technician certificate within the last five years, you may be given advanced standing into year two of the program, depending on seat availability.

SAIT accepts high school course equivalents for admission for applicants educated outside of Alberta.

Applicants educated outside of Canada

All applicants who were educated outside of Canada must demonstrate English language proficiency and provide proof they meet the program admission requirements with an international document assessment. Find accepted educational documents and assessment options.

SAIT may also accept courses completed at certain international post-secondary institutions.

Costs

2026/27 tuition and fees

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

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees is based on the suggested schedule of study. Following a modified schedule will impact the fees you pay per semester and may alter final costs.

Domestic Students

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total per year
1	2	$10,260	$1,764.50	$12,024.50
2	2	$10,260	$1,764.50	$12,024.50
			Total cost:	**$24,049**

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees for domestic students is based on the recommended course load per year.

International Students

The program total is based on the estimated amount you will pay if you enter this program during the 2026/27 academic year. The program total amount listed on your letter of admission may appear higher. This amount is your maximum tuition guarantee for the program. SAIT will not exceed this maximum, regardless of changes in tuition and fees between academic years.

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total per year
1	2	$19,680	$1,764.50	$21,444.50
2	2	$19,680	$1,764.50	$21,444.50
			Total cost:	**$42,889**

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees for international students is based on the recommended course load per year.

Books and Supplies

Books and supplies are approximately $2,000 per full-time year.

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.

Find your booklist on the SAIT Bookstore's website. The booklist will be available closer to the program start date. Can't find your program or course? The bookstore didn't receive a textbook list. Contact your program directly to determine if they're still refining course details or if you're in luck; no textbook purchase is required this term.