

# For your Information

## Updates to the Electrician Apprenticeship Education Program

Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT) is rolling out an updated curriculum for the Electrician Apprentice Education Program (AEP). The changes to the curriculum will ensure Alberta's Electrician training is closer in line with other provinces and territories in Canada. This will make it easier for Electrician apprentices and journeypersons to work in their trade across the country. The new curriculum will also include necessary instruction on new technologies.

## Background

### Red Seal Standards

The Red Seal program along with ten Canadian provinces/territories have two separate Electrician trade designations:

- Construction Electrician, and
- Industrial Electrician.

### Alberta Program

Electrician apprentices and journeypersons are trained and authorized to work in Alberta's residential, commercial, and industrial sectors within the province. Alberta's Electrician apprenticeship education program is aligned with the Red Seal standard for Construction Electrician.

### Why AIT is Updating the Curriculum

The new curriculum will ensure Alberta's Electrician apprenticeship program will include content to meet both Construction Electrician and Industrial Electrician standards.

## What you need to know

- The new curriculum will be rolled out in phases with new periods 1 and 2 beginning in the 2024/25 school year and new periods 3 and 4 beginning in the 2025/26 school year.



**2024/25:**

1st and 2nd periods updated.



**2025/26:**

3rd and 4th periods updated.

- The total number of hours apprentices will spend on their program will remain the same with some slight reallocations between classroom and on-the-job hours in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> period:

	Classroom	On-the job
Period 3	+60 hours	-60 hours
Period 4	-60 hours	+60 hours

- During the 2025/26 academic year, 4<sup>th</sup> period Individual Learning Module packages will include all content previously taught in 4<sup>th</sup> period that was moved into 3<sup>rd</sup> period. Students in the 4<sup>th</sup> period will be encouraged to review/self-study the additional content provided in preparation for their Red Seal exam.
- The new curriculum guide includes the following changes:
  - **1st period** has new content on photovoltaic electrical generation.
  - **2nd period** has a new section detailing the charging of electric vehicles and a streamlined section on heating and ventilation controls.
  - **3rd period** has existing machine topics currently taught in 4<sup>th</sup> period moving into it and the length of classroom instruction increasing to 10 weeks.
  - **4th period** has classroom instruction decreasing to 10 weeks. It contains new content dealing with building automation, pneumatic and hydraulic control systems, harmonics, and renewable energy systems. Additionally, the fire alarm section has been updated and streamlined.
- Apprentices currently in the Electrician program will not need to begin a new record book or lose any progress they have already completed.
- The curriculum guide has received support from the Alberta Board of Skilled Trades, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta, and post-secondary institutions.