

Auto Service

CERTIFICATE AND APPRENTICESHIP

Why earn your Auto Service Technician certificate?

You love to hear the roar of a perfectly fine-tuned engine and you also love to troubleshoot. You've got a knack for details, great patience, and you love the satisfaction of fixing problems. Working on vehicles, then, can work out to be the perfect career choice for you.

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WHAT TYPE OF CAREER CAN I EXPECT?

Because you get intense, hands-on training, as soon as you graduate from the Auto Service Technician program you will be ready to work in automotive dealerships, repair shops, fleet maintenance, and shops that specialize in exhaust, brakes, transmission/drive train, and tune-ups.

WHAT EXACTLY WILL I LEARN?

Your automotive training will follow a modular system that begins by developing a wide variety of basic skills. You'll then build on these skills to develop the intermediate and specialized skills that are required in this industry.



“I had no automotive knowledge when I began and now I feel I've learned a great deal and I am ready to enter the workforce.”

— CINDI BLAKE,
Automotive Service
Technician graduate,
June 2006.

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“What an awesome experience. I thought I knew a lot about the automotive trades until I started this course. I would definitely recommend this program. UFV provides an excellent facility and instruction.”

— BRAD DAVIDSON,
Automotive Service Technician graduate, June 2006.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Sample topics you'll study include:

- Safe and effective work practices
- Using specialized equipment
- Servicing steering and suspension systems
- Servicing brake systems
- Performing engine service and repair
- Servicing engine support systems
- Servicing electrical systems
- Technical Communications 115 (three academic credits).

As your studies progress, you must show that you understand the theory by successfully completing a written test for each unit. Your learning materials may include printed handouts, worksheets, videotapes, display boards, lab manuals, and written instructions. Then, it's up to you to apply your knowledge and demonstrate an acceptable level of practical skills that will be assigned in that unit. At regular stages throughout the program you will be required to move to a shop or lab area to perform various tasks in order to develop the practical skills being taught. As much as possible, study lab and shop instruction are patterned after “on-the-job” situations where a limited amount of direct supervision is required. All of your unit tests and assigned practica must be completed with a passing grade before you write the final exam.

I'M NOT YET WORKING IN THE AUTO REPAIR INDUSTRY. WILL THIS PROGRAM GET ME THERE?

Absolutely. With UFV's entry-level training, we put you in the driver's seat towards your career goal as an automotive technician. The Auto Service Technician program will totally prepare you for entry into the automotive service and repair industry. While in the program, you'll get a systematic introduction to the trade and thorough hands-on opportunities to develop the skills expected by today's employers. You'll also have the chance to acquire a sound general knowledge of most systems used on cars and light trucks.

Once you've successfully completed the program, you will have the option of attending the Auto Service Technician apprenticeship program. Our theory and shop procedures are set up to simulate job conditions, so your punctuality and good work habits are essential. This program exceeds the provincial standards of Foundation and ELTT programs throughout B.C.

WHAT ABOUT ME? I'M STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL BUT KNOW THIS IS THE CAREER I WANT.

We have options for you, too! UFV and School District #34 (Abbotsford) operate a jointly sponsored Career Technical Centre. You can enter our Automotive Technician program at the Grade 11 level and complete your high school diploma and a one-year UFV Automotive Technician certificate over two years. For more information on this option, call 604-850-8672.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Expect to pay program fees of about \$111 per week; this covers tuition plus 10 per cent of the tuition for ancillary fees. As an Automotive Service Technician student, you should also budget about \$750 for your basic hand tools, an additional \$500 for required textbooks and \$250 for your working apparel. We require a deposit (currently \$200) to be paid when you register, which typically takes place one or two months before the start of each semester. The balance of your fees must be paid by the second week of the semester. In addition, each semester (fall, winter, and summer) you will be required to pay a \$30 Student Union Society membership fee, a \$35 SUS building fee, \$4.50 Cascade student newspaper fee, a \$3 per semester radio station fee, and a \$40 universal bus pass fee.

A Health and Dental fee (\$160 for 2009/10) is charged annually each fall semester to students with nine or more credits to provide extended medical and dental insurance. You can check with the Student Union Society or at www.studentcare.net/works for details. It's also worth a visit to the UFV financial aid and awards office, which facilitates the disbursement each year of approximately \$12 million in federal and provincial student loans, grants, bursaries, scholarships, and awards to UFV students. A helpful budget planning worksheet is available online at www.ufv.ca/fineaid/budget.

ANYTHING ELSE I NEED TO KNOW?

Working on cars can be physically demanding and that's why a medical statement from a qualified physician may be required at any time before or during the program. We'll notify you if or when a statement is required.

The program runs from September to May. You must attend continuously five days a week through all three semesters in order to successfully complete all program requirements.

If you fail to meet the attendance requirements as outlined in the program guides, you might be subject to a failing grade or academic warning. It's also expected that you complete all requirements with a minimum of 70 per cent or better to receive a Credit (CR) grade in order to graduate.

SOUNDS GOOD. WHAT DO I NEED TO GET IN?

You'll need your B.C. secondary school graduation or equivalent and must pass a math and reading comprehension entrance exam.

I'M INTERESTED. WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Check out UFV's online calendar at www.ufv.ca/calendar. Read the auto service technician program description and information carefully. If you wish to contact the instructor, call Vern Wright at 604-847-5414, or email vern.wright@ufv.ca. Next, you can download an application form and submit it, along with the \$45 application fee, to any UFV Admissions and Records office. You can also transmit it through the internet at www.pas.bc.ca.

If you're currently in Grade 12, you can apply now, but we require a statement from your school counsellor or principal indicating that you are likely to meet graduation requirements by June, and this must be presented at the time of your entrance exam appointment.

You will be notified of your entrance exam date by the Trades and Technology Centre and there is no fee for writing this exam. If you have not been contacted within two weeks of submitting your application, please call us at 604-847-5448. Before classes start, you'll be called and given all the registration procedures. If we can't reach you, you'll be removed from the waitlist.

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

If you plan to start your studies in the fall, your application should be received by January 31. Applications received after this deadline will certainly be considered if space is still available in the program.

WHERE WILL MY CLASSES BE DELIVERED?

UFV's Auto Service Technician program is delivered at the Trades and Technology Centre at the Canada Education Park in Chilliwack. It is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday. Class and shops are in session from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. those days. The ultra-modern automotive shop features leading-edge technology including an on-car disc-brake lathe, the Road Force wheel balancer, an advanced wheel alignment system, computerized scopes, emission analyzers, and a huge array of hand tools. The shop is heated, well ventilated, and has nine hoists, providing plenty of opportunity to work directly on and under vehicles.

UFV's Trades and Technology Centre is the university's first facility to open in Chilliwack's Canada Education Park, a 200-acre education and research park situated along the historic Vedder River on what was once Canadian Forces Base Chilliwack.

I'M ALREADY WORKING IN THE TRADE. CAN I TAKE AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM?

If you're already working in the automotive repair industry and you're registered with the Industry Training Authority (ITA), our Automotive apprenticeship program will help you further your career. UFV offers all four levels of technical training in six-and seven-week sessions. These intense technical training sessions will take you to your journeyman certification and along the way will supplement your appropriate on-the-job training.

CAN I SPEAK WITH SOMEONE ABOUT MY OPTIONS?

Yes! We want to hear from you! If you're unsure of your direction, contact Student Services at 1-888-504-7441 to connect with an educational advisor, or arrange for career counselling. You can also contact the Trades and Technology centre directly at 604-847-5448, or 1-888-504-7441, ext. 5448, or email trades@ufv.ca to get more details.



About UFV

Nestled in the beautiful Fraser Valley just east of Vancouver, in B.C., UFV is a fully accredited, public university that enrolls more than 11,000 students each year. UFV has campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission and regional centres in Hope and Agassiz, and a growing presence in Chandigarh, India.

UFV is committed to exceptional post-secondary instruction and a nurturing learning environment. We are large enough to offer variety, yet small enough to offer the personal attention that our students need to thrive. Our small class sizes and focus on teaching allow our students to get to know their instructors and learn in a hands-on setting.

We offer more than 80 programs, including 13 bachelor's degrees, a master's degree, and more than a dozen trades and technology programs. We believe that anyone who wants to go to university should be given the chance, so our admission policies are flexible, and we provide university prep courses and high school completion options. There are many options for learning: full-time, in class, online, as part of a structured program or one tailored specifically to your interests.

Many of our programs "ladder" into one another, allowing students to keep their options open. Our international programming makes for a culturally diverse student body and great opportunities to study abroad, while our continuing studies offerings make learning a lifelong experience.

UFV is recognized nationally for student success, an excellent learning environment, creative integration of programming, and our work with our local communities.

Get to know us better at www.ufv.ca.



The information contained in this document is subject to change. Please refer to www.ufv.ca/trades for up-to-date information. UFV reserves the right to cancel courses and programs.

www.ufv.ca/trades

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