
Registrar's Report 2022-23

Apprenticeship and Industry Training



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Overview

In July 2022, the *Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act* came into force and established the role of the Registrar. The Registrar has a number of statutory accountabilities related to managing apprenticeship education programs and industry training programs, registering apprentices, and issuing credentials. The purpose of this document is to provide system partners with an overview of some of the key activities of the Registrar in the 2022-23 fiscal year.

- Each year, Alberta publishes the Apprenticeship and Industry Training Statistical Profile, which provides an overview of key data related to apprenticeship registration in the previous calendar year. Below are a few key observations from the 2022 Apprenticeship and Industry Training Statistical Profile.

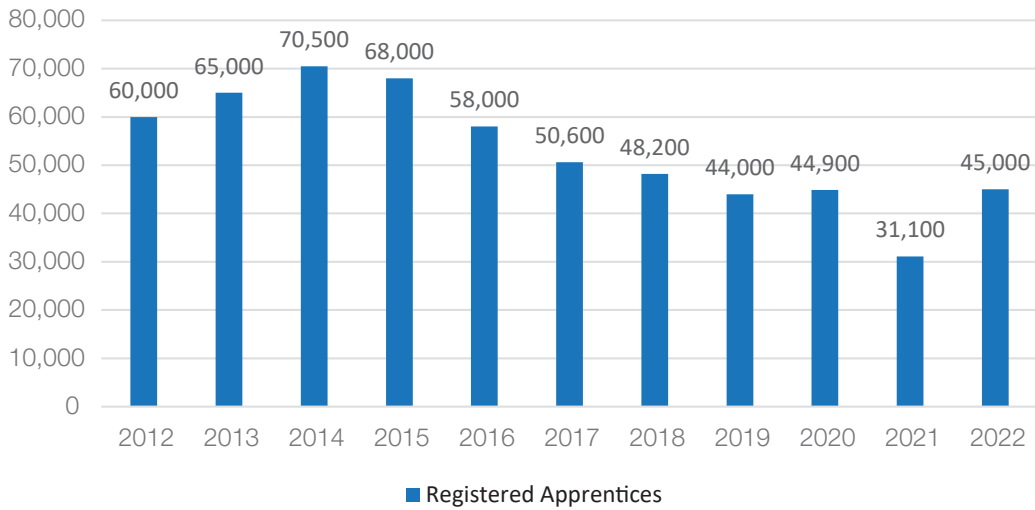
In 2022...

- Approximately 16,000 new apprentices registered, an increase from 11,000 in 2021.
- Approximately 10,800 employer sites in Alberta were mentoring apprentices.
- Approximately 6,000 individuals received certification. (This includes completed apprentices and individuals issued occupation and qualification certificates).
- Alberta government staff connected with more than 9,500 employer shops to promote apprenticeship programs and work with employers and apprentices to ensure the successful completion of apprenticeship education.
- As of December 31, 2022, there were:
 - More than 45,200 registered apprentices in Alberta.
 - Approximately 5,700 women apprentices registered in Alberta.
 - This is a 20 per cent increase from 2021.
- Women account for 13 per cent of the total apprentices registered.
 - This proportion has been increasing modestly but consistently over the past decade.
- As of December 31, 2022, more than 3,000 registered apprentices (of approximately 45,200) identified as Indigenous.
 - This represents approximately 7 per cent of registered apprentices.
 - This is an increase of 24 per cent over the previous year (representing approximately 600 learners).
- The top programs, based on overall number of registered apprentices, as of December 31, 2022, were:
 - Electrician (7,600)
 - Heavy Equipment Technician (5,300)
 - Welder (3,600)
 - Automotive Service Technician (3,500)
 - Hairstylist (3,000)



Table 1

Number of Registered Apprentices – 2012-2022



Apprenticeship Technical Training Grant

- Each year, the Government of Alberta, through Advanced Education, provides funding for apprenticeship education programming via the Operating and Program Support Grant.
 - A portion of each Operating and Program Support Grant is used by eleven post-secondary institutions to deliver classroom/shop training for apprenticeship classroom instruction.
- In 2022-23, government invested an additional \$37.3M through the Apprenticeship Technical Training Grant, which is targeted at apprenticeship classroom instruction.
 - The Apprenticeship Technical Training Grant is a funding mechanism that supplements the apprenticeship seats funded through the Operating and Program Support Grant.
- With the passing of the *Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act*, the term “technical training” is no longer used in the apprenticeship education system. Beginning in the 2023-24 fiscal year, the Apprenticeship Technical Training Grant has been renamed the Apprenticeship Learning Grant.
- Each year, a portion of the grant is retained by the Registrar to support in-year funding requests from post-secondary institutions for apprenticeship program changes based on demand and other requirements. See Table 3 for details of in-year requests that were supported by the Apprenticeship Technical Training Grant / Apprenticeship Learning Grant.

Seat Management

- The Government of Alberta engages eleven publicly funded post-secondary institutions and two private institutes to deliver classroom instruction for apprenticeship programs.
- The expectation is that these partners provide the necessary seats to meet apprentices' classroom education requirements.
- Seat management is a systematic approach to managing apprenticeship classroom instruction investments. It employs policies, processes, data, and analysis to guide, oversee, and support high-quality classroom education.
- Table 2 is the summary of the minimum number of seats post-secondary institutions are obligated to deliver based on Operating and Program Support Grant funding in the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Table 2

Committed Seats in 2022-23 Fiscal Year

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION	COMMITTED SEATS
Keyano College	616
Lakeland College	620
Lethbridge College	638
Medicine Hat College	292
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology	8,902
Northern Lakes College*	0
Northernwestern Polytechnic	783
Olds College	336
Portage College*	0
Red Deer Polytechnic	2,104
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology	4,976
TOTAL	19,267

* Northern Lakes College and Portage College do not have seat numbers specified in their Operating and Program Support Grant. Historically, these two institutions operated as Alberta Vocational Colleges. When they became publicly funded board-governed institutions, their seats were not included in their original funding agreements. Since they do deliver apprenticeship education programming, their seat numbers will be reflected in their respective 2024/25 grants.

- In the 2022/23 academic year, apprenticeship classroom instruction in the Baker and Communication Technician programs was suspended at NAIT due to low enrolment.
 - Classes may be reinstated if future demand warrants.
 - Baker classes continue to be offered at Lethbridge College.
- Apprenticeship classroom instruction seat numbers are conservatively estimated for initial registration. Since apprentices can begin their classes at numerous points during the academic year, classroom instruction seat numbers may require adjustment throughout the year.
- Classroom instruction seats may also be added to accommodate changes in demand in a specific region, apprenticeship program, or period.
- Throughout the year, post-secondary institutions are able to submit a business case to request funding for additional seats to meet demand.

Table 3**Additional Funding Approved in the 2022-23 Academic Year**

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION	ADDITIONAL FUNDING	NUMBER OF SEATS	APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS
NAIT	\$764,396	132	Pipe trades, Electrician, Powerline Technician
Northwestern Polytechnic	\$341,800	80	Heavy Equipment Technician, Industrial Mechanic (Millwright), Electrician, Automotive Service Technician
Portage College	\$60,500	28	Steamfitter-Pipefitter
SAIT	\$1,546,676	221	Autobody Technician, Automotive Service Technician, Cook, Crane & Hoisting Equipment Operator, Heavy Equipment Technician, Electrician, Industrial Mechanic (Millwright), Ironworker, Machinist, Parts Technician, Plumber, RV Service Technician, Welder
TOTAL	\$2,713,372	521 seats	

Assessment

- Apprenticeship and Industry Training is currently undertaking an Apprenticeship Assessment Review.
 - The purpose of the review is to examine assessment strategies and provide advice and recommendations to strengthen connections in the areas of education and certification.
 - The assessment review process will include planning, information gathering, data collection, data interpretation, research, and analysis leading to recommendations on alternative assessment methods.
- The Apprenticeship Assessment Review is expected to be complete in 2025 and includes:
 - a full inventory of assessments used by Apprenticeship and Industry Training in the delivery and administration of all apprenticeship education programs
 - information on how results are currently interpreted to assess the performance of the four targeted groups: learners, classroom instruction, on-the-job instruction, and administration
 - an assessment of learners, employers/sponsors, and the Registrar, and
 - research of other apprenticeship jurisdictions, education/training systems, and a variety of professions/occupations from across the world to evaluate their suitability for Alberta's apprenticeship system.

Credentials

Upon completion of an apprenticeship education program, apprentices receive:

- An education credential, which is formal acknowledgement that they have completed a post-secondary program of study and a reflection of the skills and knowledge attained in their program.
 - If the apprenticeship education program is tied to a designated trade, the education credential is recognized towards journeyperson certification.
- A journeyperson certificate, which recognizes that a person is a skilled professional who has met a specific level of proficiency in their trade and is therefore legally allowed to work in that trade using the title Journeyperson.
 - Prior to the *Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act* taking effect: from January 1, 2022 to July 19, 2022:
 - 5,079 Journeyperson Certificates were issued for completion of apprenticeship.
 - Post-*Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act*: from July 20, 2022 to December 31, 2022:
 - 2,237 Journeyperson Certificates were issued for completion of apprenticeship.
 - Education credentials began being issued as of July 20, 2022, for a total of 1,553 in the remainder of 2022.
 - Advanced Diplomas – 894
 - Diplomas – 367
 - Certificates – 218
 - Certificate of Achievements – 74

Table 4

Education Credentials Issued in 2022

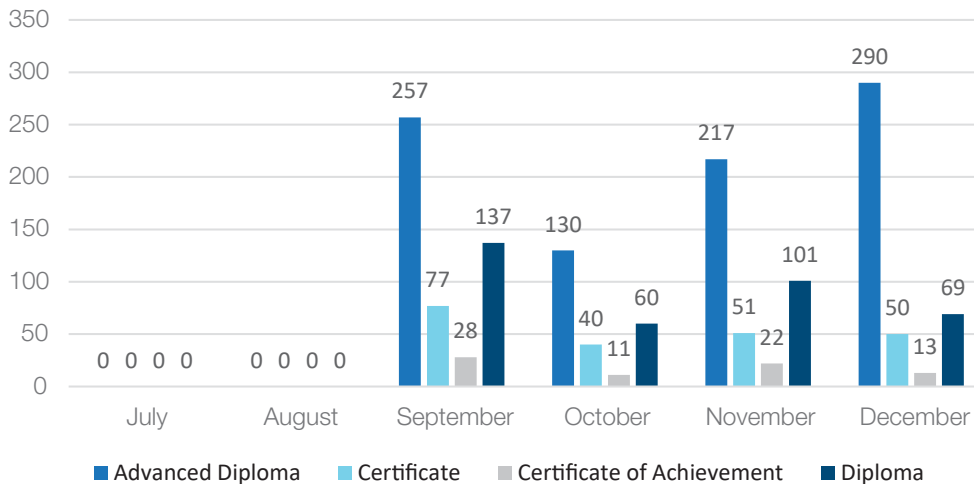
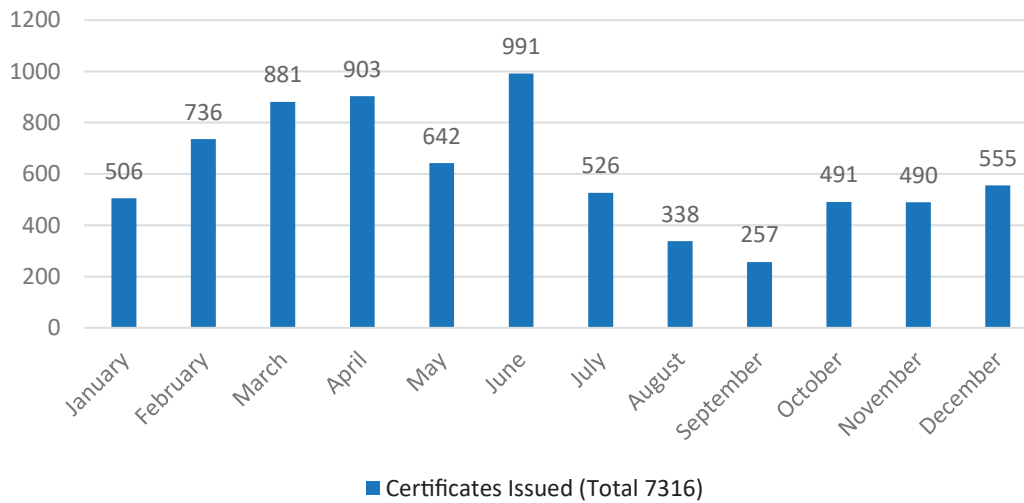


Table 5

Journey person Certificates Issued in 2022



Mentorship

Advanced Education is currently working on two research projects with the aim of strengthening mentorship in apprenticeship education. Researchers will examine utilization, capacity, and the supports needed to deploy mentorship more broadly in the apprenticeship learning model. Government will explore perspectives from both industry and Alberta’s post-secondary institutions to identify best practices and possible barriers to mentorship in on-the-job instruction.

For more information

- Contact Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT) at 1-800-248-4823 (1-800-AIT-4823), toll-free in North America.
 - Outside North America, dial +1-403-476-9757 (long distance charges will apply).
- Find general background on many topics on [Tradesecrets.alberta.ca](https://tradesecrets.alberta.ca):
 - [Introduction to Apprenticeship](#)
 - [Classroom Instruction](#)
 - [Journey person Certification](#)
 - [Profiles of all Designated Trades](#)
 - [Industry Pathways](#)
 - [Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act](#)
- Contact the Registrar directly at STAE.Act@gov.ab.ca.

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