

# Automotive Service Technician Apprenticeship Program

**CONTACT:** Brian Scharf **E-MAIL:** bscharf@loyalistc.on.ca

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Earn as you learn as a paid apprentice.
- Put your problem-solving skills to work in the classroom and on the job.
- The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities pays most of the bill.
- Entry-level salaries for a certified technician (after passing the Ministry exam at the end of the second year) start at \$35,000 or more.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

With baby boomers retiring, Canada is experiencing an increased need for skilled tradespeople, including automotive service technicians. Graduates may work in service centres, dealerships, parts and service centres, or as insurance adjusters.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Loyalist offers classroom instruction and hands-on shop experience to train bright, hard-working students to step into the expanding opportunities for automotive service technicians. Apprenticeship is a systematic program of on-the-job training and related classroom instruction operated through the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. Under the direction of the College, the apprentice becomes fully familiar with the materials, tools, principles and skills required in the trade of their choice. Depending on the trade, the apprenticeship period varies from two to five years. During that time, the apprentice works for an employer who accepts responsibility for the apprentice receiving proper instruction in all aspects of the trade.



This training program of up to 9,000 hours consists primarily of on-the-job training. Employers give the apprentice time off to attend three, eight-week in-school sessions, or one day a week for 35 weeks – which are taken at Loyalist. First, prospective students must find an employer who is willing to train them as an apprentice. The regional Apprenticeship office arranges scheduling and registration of apprenticeships, and may have a list of interested employers.

Loyalist's program is offered in three stages: Automotive Service Technician Levels I, II, and III. Once the student has successfully completed all three program levels and at least 6,500 hours of on-the-job training, he or she can write a Ministry examination. Upon successful completion of this exam, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, Program Development and Standards Unit, will recognize the candidate with a Certificate of Qualification.

## APPROXIMATE COSTS

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities pays most of the costs of apprenticeship. Students are responsible for a fee of approximately \$400.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Apprenticeship training is currently available in more than 100 construction, motive power service and industrial trades, and Early Childhood Education. Anyone 16 years of age or over who has acquired a Grade 12 or equivalent level of education can apply. Anyone who does not have a Grade 12 diploma may obtain this qualification through night school or through correspondence courses.

Information concerning qualification requirements leading to certification can be obtained by contacting the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, Program Development and Standards Unit, Mowat Block, 625 Church St., Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2B5, (416) 326-5800. Information is also available from the following regional offices:

Belleville (613) 968-5558

Kingston (613) 545-4338

Pickering (905) 837-7721

Peterborough (705) 745-1918