

Full Time 2025 - 2026

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Have you always enjoyed working with tools? Consider a career as a carpenter, a field that is in high demand. This hands-on carpentry program will give you the skills and theory you need to succeed when you write the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training First Period theory and practical exams. Further Educational Opportunities for the Carpenter Apprenticeship Program are: Second, Third, and Fourth Period. Experienced carpenters can advance to become supervisors, subcontractors, construction superintendents, or contractors.

PROGRAM OF STUDY:	TCSB1100	Section 1	Safety and Building Materials
	TCTO1200	Section 2	Tools
	TCSP1300	Section 3	Site Preparation, Building Layout, Foundations and Floor Systems
	TCED1400	Section 4	Residential Estimating and Drawing Interpretation
	TCLB1500	Section 5	Lab/Shop

TRANSFERABILITY: Any provider approved by Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training. Students must achieve a minimum of 65% cumulative weighted average for the program's courses, with an overall final exam mark of 65% or higher with no course below 50% in order to achieve successful completion for AIT's standards. Please note: You MUST receive a 70% passing mark on your AIT Period Final Exam to pass your period of training.

PROGRAM DELIVERY: Traditional classroom setting with shop, lab demonstrations and practical projects.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Students are selected by Northern Lakes College's Admissions Team. They must meet the entrance requirements for their specific trade, be indentured by an employer and eligible to attend the period of training they are applying for.

RECOMMENDED PATH: Category A as per AIT: Alberta High School Diploma with English 30-2, Math 30-3, Physics 20 or Chemistry 20 or Biology 20, or Science 20, Related Career and Technology Studies courses.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Registered Apprentice in the trade. Eligible students are determined by Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT). See www.tradesecrets.gov.ab.ca for more details.

For either route, all applicants must also be hired as an Apprentice with an approved employer and registered with Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

Employment Opportunities: Most carpenters are employed by general contractors, are self-employed, or do construction or maintenance work for government agencies, utility companies, or manufacturing firms. Employment prospects for carpenters vary considerably depending upon the sector or type of employer. Journeyperson wage rates vary, but generally range from \$25 to \$38 an hour plus benefits. The carpentry trade can be a stepping stone to unlimited possibilities. Carpenters may advance to foreman, subcontractor, construction superintendent, or contractor. They are involved in every phase of construction, and create the base buildings that most trades will follow in the construction cycle. This overall knowledge is an advantage when applying for supervisory positions.

COST ESTIMATES: **Note: All fees are subject to change.**

Tuition	\$1,104.00
Materials	\$ 95.00
Technology Fee	\$ 96.00
Textbooks (mandatory – includes GST)	\$ 596.32
Student Association Fee	\$ 108.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS:	\$1,999.32
Optional Book:	
National Building Code - 2019 Edition	\$ 139.13

ADDITIONAL FEES: Students are responsible for registering and paying the fee to challenge the first-year trades exam. The estimated cost for the Theory Exam is \$150.00. The Practical Exam: Period 1 is \$205.00

PROGRAM OFFERINGS:

Slave Lake	September 29 – November 21, 2025
Wabasca	September 29 – November 21, 2025
High Level	February 2 – March 27, 2026

*Apply at least 2 weeks before start date.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

- **APPLICATION:** Complete and submit the Northern Lakes College application on the College website - follow: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/apply-now/program-applications>. Applications may also be submitted directly through Apply Alberta www.ApplyAlberta.ca.
- **APPRENTICESHIP EXAM:** Applicants needing admission requirements must call the **Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training** office nearest to their location to make arrangements for writing the Apprenticeship Entrance Exam. (1-800-248-4823)
- **APPLICANTS:** for the apprenticeship program must be registered with **Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT)**. Application forms can be downloaded from the Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training (AIT) website, www.tradesecrets.gov.ab.ca.
- **ACCEPTANCE:** Applicants who meet the requirements will be accepted and offered a space in the next available offering of the program. In some cases, the spaces at a specific location may be full and accepted applicants will be placed on a waitlist. These applicants will be accepted in the order of "first qualified, first served" should any seats become available. Applicants will receive a letter informing them of their acceptance status.
- **FUNDING:** Applicants are encouraged to check on **funding options early (minimum of 2 months prior to program start date)**. AIT offices or NLC counsellors can assist with identifying funding options and applying for sponsorship of fees and living costs. Please visit the NLC website: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/prospective-students/financial-aid-scholarships-funding/scholarships-awards> Financial Aid, Scholarships and Funding page to learn more.
- **ORIENTATION:** Before the start date of the program, accepted applicants will receive information about registration dates, times, locations and other information to assist them.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For any assistance, questions or concerns, the following college staff are available toll-free 1-866-652-3456

Program Administrator: Trades and Resource Technology 1-780-843-8365

email: tradesaccount@northernlakescollege.ca

Questions about program content, employment opportunities for the Program.

Other Inquiries: Admissions Services 1-866-652-3456

email: admissions@northernlakescollege.ca

including general inquiries about College services & programs; student housing, library, facilities