

## **TOWER CRANE OPERATOR**

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### **Occupation Description**

“Tower Crane” operator means a person who operates a tower crane (including luffing jib and articulated jib tower cranes) to perform lifts and hoist loads, and has experience with rigging practices and procedures.

For detailed information on the scope of knowledge and skills taught and assessed in this program refer to the Program Outline, available on the ITA website.

### **Pathways to Certification**

In BC, an individual can become certified as a Tower Crane Operator by completing the Tower Crane Operator program or by challenging the certification. All crane operators must be registered with the British Columbia Association for Crane Safety (BCACS) prior to applying for ITA apprenticeship registration. Apprenticeship programs are for individuals who have an employer to sponsor them and challenge programs are for individuals who have extensive experience working in the occupation and wish to challenge the certification.

### **Recommended Education**

The following education is recommended for apprentices entering this occupation. These are not prerequisites, but rather a desired level of skill or knowledge that will contribute to success in the industry.

- Grade 12 or equivalent

### **BCACS Registration**

BCACS registration is required for all crane operators in British Columbia. Registration forms are available on the BCACS website at [www.bcacs.ca](http://www.bcacs.ca).

### **ITA Registration**

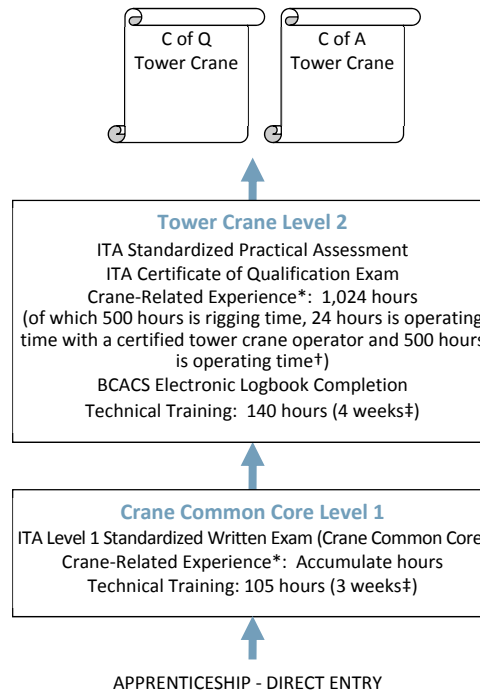
Individuals who wish to begin an apprenticeship in this program must register with ITA along with their sponsor. Application forms for all programs are available from the ITA website. Online registration is also available for most programs through the ITA website.

Those who wish to challenge the Tower Crane Operator certification must complete the Tower Crane Operator Challenge Application and submit it to ITA. Challenge applications are assessed for proof of workplace hours and scope of experience prior to acceptance of the individual into the challenge pathway.

### Apprenticeship Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Tower Crane Operator apprenticeship pathway.

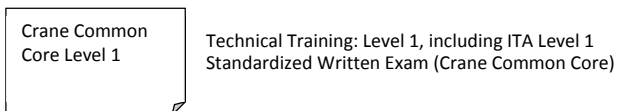
*C of Q = Certificate of Qualification  
C of A = Certificate of Apprenticeship*



\*Crane-related experience as entered in the operator's BCACS electronic logbook  
†Actual operation of the crane  
‡Suggested duration based on 35-hour week

**CROSS-PROGRAM CREDITS**

*Individuals who hold partial credit in a crane program and plan to move to an alternate crane program*





**INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE**  
**RECOGNIZED PROGRAM**

**Apprenticeship Program Standards**

**Credentials Awarded**

- Tower Crane Operator - Certificate of Qualification
- Tower Crane Operator - Certificate of Apprenticeship

**ITA Registration Prerequisites**

- Agreement signed by the Sponsor to sponsor the apprentice

**Completion Requirements**

Certification as a Tower Crane Operator is awarded upon successful completion of:

**Requirement**

**Level of Achievement Required**

Technical Training

Minimum 70% in each level of technical training:

- Crane Common Core Level 1: 3 weeks\*
- Tower Crane Level 2: 4 weeks\*

ITA Level 1 Standardized Written Exam (Crane Common Core)

- Minimum 70%

ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam

- Minimum 70%

ITA Standardized Practical Assessment

- Pass  
*Note: Successful completion of the ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam is required before attempting the practical assessment*

Work-Based Training

- 1,024 hours (completion of the work-based competencies are required prior to taking the practical assessment)
  - Completion of 500 workplace hours (documented time rigging)
  - Completion of 24 workplace hours (documented operator operating time with a certified tower crane operator)
  - Completion of 500 workplace hours (documented operator operating time)

Notification by BCACS that the Sponsor(s) has recommended certification of the apprentice in this trade

- Completed electronic logbook signed off by the Sponsor(s) on all competencies and workplace hours

(\*Assuming 35 hours in school per week)

**Program Duration**

Duration varies depending on how training is delivered and the type and number of workplace hours that are accumulated.

The technical training requirement is typically met through block-release training (full-time, at school) delivered by an ITA-approved training provider. It can also be met through approved alternative training models (e.g., distance education, online, part-time) and/or level challenge where these options are available.

**Challenging a Level**

The following levels of technical training can be challenged for advanced placement in this program:

- Crane Common Core Level 1



**INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE  
RECOGNIZED PROGRAM**

**Apprenticeship Program Standards**

**Cross-Program Credits**

Individuals who hold partial credit in a crane program and plan to move to an alternate crane program

**Credential**

Crane Common Core Level 1

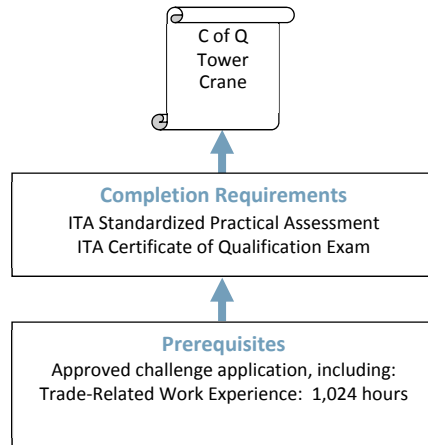
**Credit(s) Granted**

- Technical Training: Level 1, including ITA Level 1 Standardized Written Exam (Crane Common Core)

### Challenge Pathway

This graphic provides an overview of the Tower Crane Operator challenge pathway.

*C of Q = Certificate of Qualification*



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**CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING**

*Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are entitled to receive partial credit toward the completion requirements of this program*

*None*



Challenge Program Standards

Credentials Awarded Tower Crane Operator - Certificate of Qualification

ITA Registration Prerequisites An approved Challenge Application, which includes:

- Minimum 1,024 documented hours of directly-related experience working in the occupation. Of those 1,024 hours, 500 must be documented rigging experience
- Documented evidence of achievement of the competencies listed in the ITA Tower Crane Operator Challenge Application

Credit for Prior Learning Individuals who hold the credentials listed below are considered to have met, or partially met, the prerequisites for challenging this program:

Credential	Credit(s) Granted
None	▪ None

Completion Requirements Certification as a Tower Crane Operator is awarded upon successful completion of:

Requirement	Level of Achievement Required
ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam	▪ Minimum 70%
ITA Standardized Practical Assessment	▪ Pass <i>Note: Successful completion of the ITA Certificate of Qualification Exam is required before attempting the practical assessment</i>



## INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM PROFILE RECOGNIZED PROGRAM

### Supporting Documents

Tower Crane Operator Program Outline (2012) – Defines the full scope of knowledge and skills required to competently perform the occupation in BC. Available from the ITA website: [www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca).

Tower Crane Operator Getting Ready Guide – Provides information on the level examinations, examination topics and how an individual can prepare for the examination. Available from the ITA website: [www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca) and from the BCACS website: [www.bcacs.ca](http://www.bcacs.ca).

Operator logbook – Crane programs utilize an electronic logbook which is assigned upon registering with the BC Association for Crane Safety (BCACS). All crane operators must be registered with BCACS.

### Contacts

The **Industry Training Authority (ITA)** manages B.C.'s industry training and apprenticeship programs. Contact ITA Customer service if you have any questions regarding registration, examinations or certification for this program.

Telephone: 778-328-8700  
Toll Free (within BC): 1-866-660-6011  
Website: [www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca)

Fax: 778-328-8701  
Email: [customerservice@itabc.ca](mailto:customerservice@itabc.ca)

The **BC Association for Crane Safety (BCACS)** sets and manages the industry program standards and the crane operator certification program in British Columbia. BCACS works with industry to identify current and emerging knowledge, skill, and safety requirements for occupations related to this program.

Telephone: 604-336-4699  
Email: [info@bcacs.ca](mailto:info@bcacs.ca)

Fax: 604-336-4510  
Website: [www.bcacs.ca](http://www.bcacs.ca)

### Revision History

The standards for this program were reviewed and/or updated on the dates below.

Program Standards Approved: July 2006  
Updated: December 2007  
Updated: June 2012  
Updated: October 2013

Program Profiles are updated regularly. Visit [www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca) for the most current version.