



TRADES DISCOVERY PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The Vancouver School District has been offering the Secondary School Apprenticeship Program (SSA) since 1995. Students from Grade 11 and 12 apply to enter an apprenticeship while in school and most who apply are very successful. However, it appears that many students do not know about all of the opportunities available in the apprenticeable trades, and really do not understand exactly what being an SSA student entails. In an attempt to increase student knowledge about SSA, and to have greater numbers of students who choose to register in Secondary School Apprenticeship, it is proposed that interested students have the opportunity to participate in an orientation that would provide basic safety training combined with an opportunity to spend some time in a workplace. This would enable students to be able to make more informed decisions about participation in SSA during grade 11 and 12.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Apprenticeship Discovery Program is to help students research and discover information about the trades. Through spending time on work sites, the students will not only learn more about what is involved in each trade, but will also have the opportunity to be exposed to the working environment for each trade.

THE PROCESS

During the Grade 10 year the student will research the trade and technical area on-line by going to sites such as www.learnandearn.bc.ca In addition, students will have the opportunity to tour post secondary programs in schools offering the trades programs. Students will have the opportunity to apply to the Discovery Program by a designated deadline in the spring, for participation in the summer program.

THE PROGRAM

Prerequisite (18 hours) - The student will take a basic Safety Program showing hazards and safety measures while on work sites.

Three weeks (120 HOURS)

The student will be placed with an employer working in the trade that they have chosen. Students will follow a training program on site that will expose them to the working environment and the basics of the trade, in addition to functions of basic equipment. The trades available for placement will be in five main trade groups:

- **Mechanical** – Auto Service Technician, Autobody Mechanic, Heavy Duty Mechanic, Automotive Parts Person.
- **Construction** – Carpentry, Benchwork and Joinery, Walls and Ceiling Installer, Pile driving, Painting and Decorating.
- **Metal and Piping Trades** – Sheet Metal, Steel Fabrication, Plumbing, Machinist.
- **Electrical** – Electrician, Power Lineman.
- **Horticulture** – Landscape Horticulture, Production Horticulture.
- **Food Trades** – Cooking, Baking.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The program will be monitored once during progress and then at completion of the three weeks. Monitoring reports will be sent to schools for evaluation and assignment of course credits.

RESULTS

The student will return to school for the grade 11 year and advise their counselor or SSA contact whether they wish to apply for the SSA Program in the trade they have been exposed to in the summer program



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Confirmation of Training Site

Date: _____

Business Name: _____

Employer Contact: _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

I/We agree to host a Vancouver School District student(s) in the Trades Discovery for Secondary Students program.

I/We understand that the student(s) will be required to accumulate up to 120 hours of workplace-based experience, in an unpaid capacity. Hours of trades discovery experience will be determined by the employer. It is also understood that students will be covered by the Workers Compensation Act and considered to be workers of the Government of British Columbia for the dates and times that the student is placed with the employer.

The apprenticeable trades for which I/we are able to provide training are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

This commitment is based on staffing requirements, operational needs of the company, and the suitability and aptitude of the applicant student(s).

Name: _____ Position: _____

Signature: _____

This employer has been approved to provide workplace-based experience for students in the Trades Discovery for Secondary Students program.

Carole MacFarlane
Career Programs Coordinator,
Vancouver School Board

Signature: _____

*Please return to VSB ~ Fax: 604-713-5044
or Email: careerprog@vsb.bc.ca*