

**NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLEGE
REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
PROGRAM INFORMATION AND COMPLETION GUIDE**

Program Name: Automotive Service Technician Foundation
Credential/Certification: Certificate in Automotive Service Technician Foundation
Date Submitted: October 2025
Effective Date: September 2026

Program Contact: trades@nlc.bc.ca

Dean: Rod Cork

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Program Description: This program consists of Foundation and Level 1 Automotive Service Technician Technical training as per the Skilled Trades BC prescribed curriculum. This program meets the Skilled Trades BC prerequisite for Level 2 technical training. Automotive Service Technician is a nationally designated trade under the Interprovincial Red Seal program.

Automotive Service Technicians examine, test and repair the parts and systems on cars and light trucks. They often use computerized diagnostic equipment to test, adjust and repair key vehicle components such as engines, steering systems, braking systems, drive trains, vehicle suspensions and electrical systems. The work of an Automotive Service Technician also involves reassembling and testing repaired items against manufacturers' standards, as well as performing preventative maintenance such as wheel alignments, oil changes and tune-ups.

Successful completion of the Automotive Service Technician Foundation Program results in the student acquiring credit for Level 1 AST technical training and 450 work-based hours, and eligibility to move into Level 2 Apprenticeship training once they have a sponsor.

A Reading week included in this program that will occur in the last week of February of every year (exact dates will vary).

Admission Requirements:

Math – one of the following:

BC Math 10 (minimum final grade of C+), or BC Math 11 or BC Math 12 (minimum final grade of C), or equivalent.

MATH 030 or higher, with a minimum final grade of C+, or equivalent.

English – one of the following:

BC Language Arts 10 Courses – 4 credits earned, minimum individual grade of C+, or equivalent.

BC Language Arts 11 Courses – 4 credits earned, minimum individual grade of C+, or equivalent.

BC Language Arts 12 Courses – 4 credits earned, minimum individual grade of C+, or equivalent.

ENGL 030 or higher, with a minimum final grade of C+, or equivalent.

IELTS score of 5.5 overall with no band less than 5.0 or equivalent English placement test and score.

OR

ESTR 037 (Intermediate-Level Essential Skills for Trades) with a minimum final grade of 67%.

OR

Successful completion of the NLC POWER program.

Post-Admission Requirements:

NLC's South Peace campus is connected to the Dawson Creek High school – South Peace Campus. Therefore the Criminal Records Review Act requires that all NLC students over the age of 19 must submit a clearance letter from the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP) for a Schedule B Criminal Record Check (CRC): works with children or works with children and vulnerable adults, before classes begin. The cleared CRC must be received by NLC one month prior to the start of the program. Failure to provide a cleared CRC by the deadline may result in dismissal from the program.

Length of Program: (weeks and total hours) Approx. 33 weeks/990 hrs

Program Intake: (start/finish dates)

Start: September

Finish: May

Available Seats: 16

Application Deadline: All completed applications must be received one month prior to the start of the program. Completed applications received after this date will be reviewed based on seat availability.

Career Prospects: Students can find employment as Automotive Service Technicians, Automotive Dealership Service Managers, Automotive Salespersons, or Automotive Business or Dealership Owners.

Affiliations/Partnerships:

SD 59, SD 60, SD 81 and SD 87
Industry Training Authority

Location: Dawson Creek (South Peace Campus)

Additional Requirements/Supplies: (fees, supplies, materials)

Textbooks

Students are required to have a computer (laptop or other mobile device) with minimum computer requirements as listed on the NLC website (www.nlc.bc.ca/Services/Information-Technology/minPC).

Personal protective equipment (safety glasses, steel-toed boots, gloves, coveralls, etc.)

Eligibility for Canada Student Loans: (Yes or No)

Yes

Required Minimum Grade: (overall and/or minimum within a course)

70%

Residency Requirement: (percentage of courses which must be taken at NLC)

100% or approval of the Dean.

Required Courses: (list courses required to complete credential and total hours for each course)

ASTF 101 Automotive Service Technician Foundation (910 hours)

ASTF 150 Automotive Service Technician Foundation Practicum (80 hours)