



April 10, 2026

Dear Collision Repair Program Participants,

This morning, we [announced we're investing up to \\$13.3 million in apprenticeship grants](#) over the next four years to help address labour shortages and strengthen B.C.'s collision repair industry.

The newest investment in our Labour, Education, Training and Safety (LETS) program, the grants will help expand apprenticeship opportunities and support the next generation of skilled collision repair workers. More trained technicians means that after a crash, customers get back on the road faster with safe, high-quality vehicle repairs.

The announcement includes new grants to increase opportunities for women and Indigenous apprentices, cover travel costs for apprentices in rural communities, and recognize more pathways to training. The grants encourage timely progression through apprenticeship training, with grants tied to each year of training and Red Seal certification to help strengthen the long-term workforce more quickly.

Who can access the funding?

Grants are available to Collision Repair Program Participants who employ or provide Work Based Training hours to apprentices in:

- Auto Body and Collision Technician programs, or
- Automotive Refinishing Technician programs

Funding applies to eligible apprentices who achieve apprenticeship milestones between **April 1, 2026 and March 31, 2030**.



What funding is available?

Eligible repair facilities can receive:

- Up to \$56,500 per auto body and collision technician apprentice
- Up to \$29,500 per automotive refinishing technician apprentice

We've summarized all the available grants, and the eligibility criteria in the table below:

Incentive	Completed within 12 months	Completed after 12 months	Eligibility Criteria
Tool Grant	\$2,000	\$2,000	Apprentice completes Level 1 apprenticeship.
Collision Technician Level grant	\$7,500	\$5,650	Employ an apprentice who completes Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 or Level 4 apprenticeship.
Refinishing Technician Level grants	\$5,000	\$3,750	Employ an apprentice who completes Level 1 or Level 2.
Challenge grants	\$1,000	\$1,000	Employ a technician who challenges their Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 or Red Seal exam.

Foundations / Youth Train in Trades grants	\$1,000	\$1,000	Host a practicum placement for a student who successfully completes a recognized Foundations or Level 1 technical training program.
Completion Grants	\$10,000	\$7,500	Employ an apprentice who successfully achieves their Red Seal certification. Does not apply to the challenge pathway.
Out of Town allowance	\$3,000	\$3,000	Employ an apprentice or technician that must travel for training or an exam.
Indigenous and Women in Trades grant	\$500	\$500	Employ an apprentice or technician who self-identifies as First Nations, Métis, Inuit or as a woman who successfully completes or challenges a Level or achieves their Red Seal Certification.

Full eligibility requirements, grant details, and application instructions are available in the revised [ICBC Apprenticeship Support Program Guide](#) and the updated [LETS section of the business partners page](#).

Learn more

If you'd like to learn more about the available incentives, we encourage you to attend one of our industry town halls or reach out to your Account Services representative. As a reminder, we've recently rescheduled some of the town halls, so we encourage you to [review the updated schedule](#).

Thank you for your support as we help to make education and training more accessible, affordable and relevant to help businesses grow and prepare British Columbians for the jobs of tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Kevin Walsh

Manager, MD Program Services