

SKILLED TRADES EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (STEP) SNAPSHOT 2025



Since 2006, the Skilled Trades Employment Program (STEP) has been building connections between BC construction companies and job seekers looking for apprenticeship opportunities. STEP helps people access meaningful careers in the construction trades by providing one-on-one support, advice, and direct connections to employer companies. STEP assists employers by pre-screening candidates for apprenticeships and ensuring new hires are job-ready.

15,000

Individuals Served

13,000

Individuals Placed into Jobs

5,000

Employers Have Hired Through STEP

87% Placement Rate

Top 5 Trades Placed Into Jobs



Electrician



Carpenter



Welder



Plumber



Refrigeration &
Air Conditioning
Mechanic (RACM)

Number of Trades Supported: **51**

2,756

Indigenous people served

2,379

Women served

2,015

New Canadians served

9,109

Youth served

“ I enjoyed being a part of this program...

I came from an IT background and had no experience working in the trades. STEP has been more than helpful, from building a resume, linking me up with an employer and getting me all the necessary tools and safety gear to begin my journey in the trades.

I was initially nervous about finding employment in the electrical field, being that I had never worked in the trades before and the fact that I was a female entering into a very male-dominated field... STEP supported me throughout the whole process.

The STEP program and their dedicated ever-so supportive team have made my introduction into the trades a wonderful and welcoming experience.

“ How STEP helped me as an employer:

STEP is providing a valuable service to new workers, our company, and our industry. Since we first started getting referrals from STEP for new plumbing candidates in 2020, we have a number of them that are now completing their training and will be receiving their Red Seal Plumber Certifications.

STEP understands our business needs and helps connect us to motivated and skilled individuals looking to get into the trades. From mentorship to supplying workers with the right tools for the job, STEP goes above and beyond to help candidates succeed...

We're working on our 20th hire through STEP over the last few years. It's been a really good stream for us for finding good quality people.

“ Would you recommend STEP?

Absolutely! STEP is an amazing tool for anyone transitioning into the workplace and looking for support doing so.

I highly recommend STEP to anyone who is thinking about a career in trades...

I hope one day I will be in a position to lift someone up the way STEP did for me.

Definitely! I think this is a great program to help people who are nervous about starting a career in trades.