

Heavy Equipment Technician

(one year (9 months) post-secondary program)

Please read and think about the following information below carefully to decide whether this program is a good fit for you. This information may change and is simply intended to offer you a helpful perspective on what you will experience in this program.

Orientation: Typically, during the last week of August (**Required** for all students).

Program Dates: September through April (courses); May (Practicum)

Scheduled Breaks: Last week of December and first week of January (two weeks); first week of March (one week). Check your registration for exact dates.

Post-Graduation

Work Permit length: Up to 9 months.

Schedule: Monday to Friday as early as 8:00 a.m and as late as 5:00 p.m.

Campus Location: 1035 1st Street North, Brandon, Manitoba. See campus information [here](#)

What You'll Study:

Start with shop safety and the correct use of tools and equipment. Safety is a focus in the whole program and in every job.

Theory and practice in servicing, diagnosing and repairing agricultural, heavy duty and transport equipment.

Train on diesel engines, power trains and electrical systems.

Explore systems related to electronic and computerized control, monitoring, diesel and gasoline fuel, air-conditioning, hydraulics, steering, suspension and advanced braking.

Your study will include related skills in communications and customer service, math and measurement, science, and welding and metal fabrication.

All students will complete a "College Foundations" online course to develop the skills and attitudes of a successful Canadian student and employee.

Read more under "Overview" and "Courses and Costs" [here](#).

See PDF document on [this page](#).

How You'll "Learn By Doing"

Generally 60% of program learning will be practical, "hands-on" learning and evaluation; 40% will be "lectures" and theory examinations.

You'll apply your learning and skills with industry-relevant tools and a wide variety of equipment. You will practice service, diagnosis and repair procedures with many types of systems and components.

In the Industry Encounter course, you will observe multiple departments in a local business, to understand how service, parts and sales departments of a business work together.

You will complete training for Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association (MOPIA) certification.

Minimum 120 hour work practicum at end of program; unpaid.

See video about the program here: <https://youtu.be/ggTmRhmRuZ0>

What You'll Need to Do to Graduate

- **Attend** all classes and activities. **Arrive on time** every day. Participate fully and ask questions.
- Ask instructors or advisors for help when you need it, and ask for help early!
- **Purchase all required books, tools, supplies and safety clothing/footwear**; most required **during first or second week of program**. **If you do not purchase these items, you will not be allowed in the shop and you will fail courses very quickly.**
- Work co-operatively in teams and behave respectfully towards all students, staff and partners. **English only.**
- **No personal cell phone use** during class activity.
- **Manage physical demands:** Working outdoors in extreme warm, cold or rainy weather conditions; using ladders and working in high places; good hand-eye coordination and ability to use tools; lifting equipment or heavy objects (minimum of 50 pounds/23 kilograms). Good vision will be important. The shop or work location may have high noise levels.
- **You will need to be comfortable with using a desktop or laptop computer** to type assignments, use industry-related diagnostic software, and search/read service manuals.
- **Maintain shop safety practices.**
- You will need a **co-op work permit** for Practicum; apply **early!** See [here](#).
- **Pass all courses with a C (60%).** Re-testing is generally not an option. If you fail a course, it will not be available again until the following year, and could result in an “unscheduled break”.
- All English skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) are important. Evaluation can include tests, group projects, practical demonstrations of skills, and presentations.
- **Do your own work.** Cheating, not referencing sources of your ideas, or using other people’s work could result in failing grades/suspension.

Costs

Tuition: see website and letter of acceptance.

Health insurance: All international students will **require** health insurance. Cost approximately \$1000.

Textbooks, tools, supplies, safety clothing and footwear: over \$3500. **NOT included in tuition.** See lists [here](#); click on the “Tools and Supplies” tab. **Required early in program.** Purchased on your own, not payable to college. Also note any required computer equipment on that page; if you do not own that now, it will be an additional cost.

Transportation and living costs are your responsibility.

How Assiniboine College Can Help You

- Trained instructors will share their knowledge and experience from the industry, and will give you frequent and specific feedback on your progress.
- Learning Commons staff available to assist with study skills, like test-taking and writing papers.
- Student advising staff can offer support for personal issues.
- A Regulated International Student Immigration Advisor can answer questions related to permits.
- The college hosts a Tool Fair early in the program, which allows you to compare tools and costs before purchasing your tools. Some companies will offer a student discount.

Job Options for Graduates

Graduates find entry-level employment as technicians in farm machinery, transport truck and construction equipment businesses, or businesses that use these types of equipment.

Some jobs will require working outside, sometimes in unpleasant weather, or in unheated buildings.

Some jobs will require evening and weekend work and/or long hours of work, especially in the spring/summer/fall months.

Many will require a **valid Manitoba driver's license**. See information [here](#) and [here](#).

Possible jobs on Manitoba In-Demand Occupations list: [Heavy-duty equipment mechanics](#)

Other Important Information

This program has a **strict** attendance and punctuality policy.

This program is likely a good choice only for students interested in working in the trade after graduation, because you will have invested a lot of money in tools needed for jobs in the trade.

All students **must wear personal protective equipment (PPE)** (see Supplies list) as required by Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Legislation. If a student has any doubt about wearing the required PPE they should contact the Chair of the program to discuss **before** choosing the program.

“Co-op work permit” will be required by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada before you start the practicum placement. Your letter of acceptance will allow you to apply. Apply for this **early**, as processing time is very long! See IRCC website [here](#).

Completion of this program with a minimum average of 70% could qualify you for credit in Level 1 in-school technical training and 900 hours in the Heavy Duty Equipment Technician, or Agricultural Equipment Technician, or Truck and Transport Mechanic trades with Apprenticeship Manitoba. All decisions will be Apprenticeship Manitoba's. See [here](#) for information about apprenticeship.