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## ITA RELEASES RFP FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MORE E-PPRENTICE PROGRAMS

The Industry Training Authority (ITA) today released requests for proposals for the design, development and initial implementation of E-PPRENTICE options for technical training in the Industrial Mechanic (Millwright), Carpenter, and Construction Electrician programs. E-PPRENTICE programs are province-wide, flexible delivery modes intended to provide another option to apprentices interested in a different approach to completing the technical training components of their apprenticeship. Through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, the ITA wishes to identify a consortium, or partnership organization, of educators, new media and e-learning experts to develop new flexible learning delivery models for apprentices registered in the these programs.

The E-PPRENTICE initiative is already well under way, with program development and some delivery already proceeding in Automotive Service Technician (Levels 1-4), Automotive Collision Repair (Levels 1-4), Professional Cook I, II and III, and Welder (Levels C, B) programs.

These RFPs issued by the ITA and posted at BC Bid ([www.bcbid.ca](http://www.bcbid.ca)) are part of a second round of requests for proposals for E-PPRENTICE program design, development and initial implementation. The first requests for proposals were issued in February and March 2009. Over the next two years, dependent on funding, the ITA may release other Requests for Proposals for funding to develop E-PPRENTICE programs for two to four additional, specified trades per year

E-PPRENTICE is an initiative of the ITA intended to introduce new flexible learning models for apprenticeship technical training that give apprentices alternatives to block release training and allow them to complete their technical training with less disruption to their work, living arrangements and more. Implementation of the strategy involves close collaboration with representatives of post-secondary trades training providers, industry, secondary school districts, and new media and e-learning companies.

The ITA manages BC's trades training system and works collaboratively with industry, training providers, labour unions, government and other stakeholders to provide career development opportunities for individual British Columbians and skilled labour for BC employers. BCcampus is responsible for leading and coordinating the E-PPRENTICE initiative on behalf of the ITA.

Funding for E-PPRENTICE is provided by the Industry Training Authority, through the BC/Canada Labour Market Agreement.



**For more information on E-PPRENTICE please contact:**

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