

Trade of Landscape Horticulturist Regulation Update

On July 27, 2018, the Manitoba government amended the trade regulation for the trade of Landscape Horticulturist, Manitoba Regulation 86/2018. The following details the changes that have been made to the regulation and will be effective beginning September 1, 2018.

Scope of the Trade

A Landscape Horticulturist is defined as a person who:

- (a) constructs and installs hard and soft landscaping in accordance with principles of landscape design and construction;
- (b) operates and services tools and machinery used in landscaping and horticulture;
- (c) controls plant production;
- (d) maintains inventory of plant materials for production and retailing purposes;
- (e) propagates, cultivates and studies plants, and treats injured and diseased plants; and
- (f) maintains and repairs hard and soft landscape elements.

Term of Apprenticeship

The term of apprenticeship has been changed from three levels of technical training and practical experience and a total of 1,700 hours per level, to four levels and 1,500 hours per level to align with the recommendations from the harmonization initiative.

An apprentice who has completed at least one level under the former regulation must complete his or her apprenticeship program under the former regulation as if it had not been repealed.

Wage Rates

The minimum wage rates were also updated due to the addition of the fourth level of training. The following wage rates will apply to apprentices as of September 1, 2018:

- (a) 115% of the provincial minimum wage during the first level;
- (b) 130% of the provincial minimum wage during the second level;
- (c) 145% of the provincial minimum wage during the third level; and
- (d) 160% of the provincial minimum wage during the fourth level.

Commonly Asked Question

If I am currently a Landscape Horticulturist apprentice and have completed level one of technical training, in which level would I be considered under the amended trade regulation?

Apprentices who are registered in an apprenticeship agreement prior to September 1, 2018 will still be required to complete three levels of technical training and practical experience and 1,700 hours. Apprentices will continue with their apprenticeship in their current level of training.

Does this mean I can only be paid 1.15 times the provincial minimum wage during the first level?

The wage rates set out for each level are the minimum requirements, but this does not stop employers from paying more. In other words, you will be paid at least this amount for level one, and so on for each level.

Effective October 1, 2017, the provincial minimum wage in Manitoba is \$11.15 per hour. This means that a first-level Landscape Horticulturist apprentice is entitled to a minimum hourly wage rate of \$12.82.

For the regulation update, see web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/index_annual.php. For more information on the apprenticeship and certification system, please visit the Apprenticeship Manitoba office nearest you or visit our website at www.manitoba.ca/tradecareers.