

Algonquin College Pre-apprentice automotive courses start in one month

Becoming an apprentice in the automotive industry is now easier with innovative, tuition-free pre-apprentice programs offered at Algonquin College's School of Transportation and Building Trades at the Woodroffe campus.

Two new programs, Pre-apprentice Auto Body Repair and Truck Coach Technician, are designed to help individuals enter these trades by eliminating the employer sponsorship requirement.

Generally students must be employed in the chosen trade before they can start apprenticeship, says John Paul Tapp, dean of the School of Transportation and Building Trades. But for many finding a trade job before acquiring the necessary skills can be difficult and may deter them from entering the trade.

"These programs make you more attractive to potential sponsors," says Tapp. "You take what we call pre-apprentice training which will familiarize you with the specific

work environment and provide you with basic skills."

Both programs begin May 9. They are 40-weeks long and include 24 weeks of full-time pre-apprentice training, eight weeks

of level one in-class apprenticeship, and eight weeks of paid work placement. The only prerequisites are Grade 10 education for the Auto Body Repair program and Grade 12 for the Truck Coach Technician program. Depending on their proficiency, graduates will have a level of first or second-year apprentice.

The programs are funded by the Government of Ontario as part of an initiative to address the shortage of skilled trades people.

Algonquin College is the only school in Ottawa that offers these particular automotive

courses in English.

For more information or to register for a mandatory information session call Algonquin College at (613) 727-4723 ext.7650.



JOHN PAUL TAPP
Dean of the School
of Transportation
and Building
Trades.