

Landscape Horticulturist

Design, plant and build outdoor spaces. Seasonal work, easy to start, and many end up owning the company.

TYPICAL PAY

\$62,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$44k to \$85k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

2 to 4 years

after high school

DEMAND

Good

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

No

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK

Landscape companies, garden centres, golf courses, city parks

How you get there

- 1 High school diploma** Grade 12
Grade 12 with biology, math and shop. Some school boards offer landscaping and horticulture courses.
- 2 Start on a crew** Any spring
Landscape companies hire every spring. Garden centres and golf courses hire students. Get a driver's licence first.
- 3 Register an apprenticeship (optional)** 3 years
Ontario calls the trade Horticultural Technician (code 441C). Register with Skilled Trades Ontario, SkilledTradesBC or your province's authority. Ontario requires 6,120 hours: 5,400 on the job plus 720 in school.
- 4 Or a college diploma** 2 years
2-year horticulture or landscape technician programs at Niagara College, Humber, Fanshawe, Olds College in Alberta, Kwantlen Polytechnic University in BC and others. Often combined with the apprenticeship.
- 5 Certificate of Qualification and Red Seal** After your hours
Pass the exam. The Red Seal title is Landscape Horticulturist.

Pros and cons

- + Outdoors, physical, visible results
- + Easy entry, licence optional
- + Business ownership is realistic
- Seasonal pay unless you plow snow
- Hard on knees and back, heavy stone
- Heat, rain, bugs and early starts

Optional boosts

Pesticide applicator licence. Landscape design. Hardscape and stone. Irrigation.

Good to know

Snow pays the winter

In most of Canada, landscape companies survive winter on snow removal contracts. Storm nights mean 12 to 16 hours in a plow truck.

It is a Red Seal trade

Landscape Horticulturist is on the same national list as electricians and welders. Few people know that.

Where these numbers come from

Skilled Trades Ontario: Horticultural Technician

Red Seal Program

Job Bank: Landscape and horticulture technicians and specialists (horticulture specialist), wages (updated Nov 2025)

Landscape Ontario

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/landscape-horticulturist>



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