



Alberta Common Ground Alliance

TRAINING STANDARDS COMMITTEE

GROUND DISTURBANCE 201 STANDARD (ALBERTA)

OVERVIEW OF STANDARD

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INTRODUCTION

This overview of the Ground Disturbance 201 Standard identifies the subject matter required in classroom and online ground disturbance training programs. Sufficient detail is provided to allow a training provider to make an informed decision about developing a program and submitting it to the ABCGA for endorsement. It also provides employers and prospective students the information necessary to appreciate the benefits of a ground disturbance training program that has gone through the ABCGA's endorsement process.

GROUND DISTURBANCE 201 STANDARD (ALBERTA)

The Ground Disturbance 201 Standard has been developed by the Alberta Common Ground Alliance Training Standards Committee with input from the stakeholders in the ground disturbance and buried facility damage prevention communities. It defines the minimum content and student evaluation requirements for classroom and online training programs suitable for those that wish to ultimately become ground disturbance supervisors.

The Standard includes regulatory requirements, ground disturbance/buried facility damage prevention best practices and industry guidelines to provide students with the best information currently available. The Standard does not address the geotechnical aspects of safe excavation and trenching. The Standard is Alberta specific.

APPLICATION TO ACCESS THE STANDARD

Access to the Ground Disturbance 201 Standard will be granted to bona fide training organizations on submission of the application form and approval by the ABCGA. Approval of the Application to Access the Ground Disturbance 201 Standard will include an invoice for the Standard access fee in the amount set out in the current Schedule of Fees. On payment of the Standard access fee, the Applicant will receive a downloadable copy of the Standard.

PROGRAM ENDORSEMENT PROCESS

Developers of both classroom and online ground disturbance training programs are eligible and encouraged to apply for endorsement.

There are three stages to the program assessment process:

- Stage I** An evaluation of the content of the Applicant's program against the minimum content specified in the Ground Disturbance 201 Standard. The Applicant's program must meet the requirements of the Stage I Application Form before progressing to Stage II.
- Stage II** A check of the Applicant's internal systems and processes that support the program, ensure the protection of student information collected and ensure the integrity of examinations and certificates. The Applicant's internal systems and processes must meet the requirements of the Stage II Application Form before progressing to Stage III.
- Stage III** An audit of the Applicant's presentation of the program to ensure the minimum content is presented accurately and in accordance with the Applicant's internal systems and processes.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

Each Stage has associated fees set out in the current Schedule of Fees. The current Schedule of Fees is posted on the ABCGA's web site www.albertacga.ca.

SERVICE STANDARD

The timelines associated with the stages of the endorsement process are set out in the Service Standard. The Service Standard is posted on the ABCGA's web site www.albertacga.ca.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of a training program endorsed by the ABCGA as meeting the requirements of the Ground Disturbance Standard 201, the student will:

- Understand competency, its components and why training is necessary
- Understand the buried facility damage prevention process and the potential consequences of damaging buried facilities
- Understand that damage prevention is a responsibility shared among the ground disturbance/damage prevention stakeholders
- Know who those stakeholders are and their roles and responsibilities with respect to ground disturbance/damage prevention
- Understand how a ground disturbance ought to be managed from regulatory, industry best practices and industry guidelines perspectives
- Understand the need to conduct a search for existing buried facilities and appreciate the main sources of information
- Understand the need to notify buried facility operators in advance of undertaking a ground disturbance from regulatory and industry perspectives
- Understand the purpose of locates, what the marks mean, locate documentation and management of locates from regulatory, industry and corporate perspectives
- Understand the need for continuous communication among all parties on a ground disturbance site and the purpose and benefits of pre-job and tailgate meetings
- Understand the need to have and the benefits of having particular documentation on a ground disturbance site
- Understand that regulatory requirements are minimums and that a successful ground disturbance will rely on a combination of regulatory, industry best practices, industry guidelines and corporate codes of practice considerations.