

Apiculture Summer Technician – Temporary Full time

Company description

The Alberta Beekeepers Commission (ABC) has represented and supported the interests of Alberta's commercial beekeepers since 1933. In 2019, the Commission established the Technology Transfer Program (TTP) for apiculture with the overall objective of improving honey bee health. The TTP supports Alberta's commercial beekeepers through training, extension and colony health monitoring services. The TTP also collaborates with academic institutions, industry stakeholders, and all levels of government on a variety of applied research and extension projects. Through its services, the TTP provides ongoing assessments for pests and pathogens, helping timely changes that support healthy and sustainable operations.

Job description

The TTP is seeking **two summer technicians for the 2026 field season (May 1–August 31)**. Both positions will focus on honey bee colony health monitoring activities across the province, as well as supporting applied research projects. Previous beekeeping experience and knowledge of honey bee biology, diseases, and pest management will be considered a strong asset. The role involves working directly with honey bees in the field. Travel throughout Alberta, including occasional overnight stays, will be required.

The summer technicians will work alongside the TTP's permanent apiary technician staff, to assist with applied research activities, monitoring colonies for pests and diseases, preparing extension materials, and supporting laboratory work.

Responsibilities and Activities:

- Assist with fieldwork.
- Organize field gear and required supplies for colony health monitoring trips.
- Collect samples in the field and analyze samples in the lab, while adhering to strict scientific protocols for diagnoses of honey bee diseases.
- Collect and prepare bee and mite samples for shipment to the National Bee Diagnostics Centre.
- Perform tasks as required, supporting applied research projects, including data collection and, recording, note taking, data management, writing and limited reporting.
- Write and create extension materials on honey bee-related topics.

- Assist with office-related work.
- Assist the Tech Transfer Program team and ABC administration as needed.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Ability to work as part of a team environment.
- Must have strong problem-solving skills and a proactive approach.
- Availability for out of town travel throughout the province.
- Capacity to perform physically demanding work for extended periods and undertake long drives while maintaining professionalism with clients and co-workers.
- Must have a commitment to excellence and high standards.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Ability to lift up to 20kg.
- Valid class 5 driver's license and clean driving record.
- Interest in learning more about honey bee health and biology, and Alberta's commercial beekeeping industry.
- Good practical experience working with honey bees is an asset.
- Knowledge of sampling bees for disease diagnosis in field and in the laboratory is an asset.
- Good understanding of bee biology, bee pests and diseases, disease management is an asset.
- Fluency in Spanish is considered an asset.

What we offer:

- A work truck is provided for field work activities.
- Training for working and handling bees.
- First aid and safety training.
- Working from home is possible when performing office-related activities.

Financial Compensation: \$19 per hour

Work week: Monday-Friday, 40 hours per week. Some flexibility in work hours required

Duration: May 1st to August 31st 2026

How to Apply: Please submit resume and cover letter to: ttp@albertabeekeepers.ca

Application deadline: March 20, 2026, 11:59 pm (MST)

For more information about the TTP, please visit: www.albertabeekeepers.ca/tech-transfer-program/

