



Purpose:

The BC Forest Safety Council is committed to providing members and clients with exceptional service. This includes providing accurate information and guidance to prospective participants to ensure they make informed decisions about their program purchase and enrollment.

Assessment and admission criteria are well publicized and applied consistently. This will ensure potential participants have clear access and lines of communication regarding the pre-requisites, assessment tools, admission requirements and dispute resolution guidelines.

Entry assessment tools and admission requirements enable potential participants to clearly assess their own ability to meet required basic knowledge, skills and abilities to achieve program outcomes.

Overview:

The BC Faller Standard is intended to develop trainee fallers in their 30 days of basic training required under regulation in British Columbia. Trainees will learn the basics of manual tree falling and related duties that include the following:

- Basic Chainsaw Operations
- Hazard Recognition, Evaluation and Control
- Appropriate undercuts & backcuts
- Directional control of falling tree
- Danger tree assessment
- Limbing & Taping
- Bucking felled trees and logs safely
- Face Management (5 Tree Plan)

Pre-Screen Assessment:

New Faller Training is available to all potential applicants who are physically and mentally fit and possess the desire to work safely and productively as a hand faller. All applicants will be required to complete a Faller Readiness Assessment. The Faller Readiness Assessment was created with input from industry to help identify those individuals most likely to be successful in the program and as Fallers in the future. The key dimensions of a successful candidate entering the new faller training program identified by industry are:

- Spatial ability
- General cognitive ability
- Learning and adaptability
- Stress tolerance/resilience
- Productivity
- Organization identification
- Working collaboratively.



The Faller Readiness Assessment is comprised of six tests that consist of cognitive ability and personality inventory. The testing should take approximately two hours and is completed online.

Results from the assessment do not determine whether an individual enters the program or not. Rather, the assessment helps identify areas of strength and areas that may require additional training.

Course Requirements

Program Goals

Participants in the program will:

1. Develop the skills and knowledge expected in the industry.
2. Understand the BC Faller Standard and become familiar with the WorkSafeBC regulations that apply to the industry.
3. Work through a Field Skills Record Book. Participants must demonstrate the ability to safely perform the skills before progressing to the next level.
4. Apply theory through hands-on practical training.

Program Format

The program is set up with 30 days of closely supervised field and classroom training. The field training location varies depending on available timber supply.

You will be required to complete the assigned online learning resources PRIOR to the first day of the course. Review of some modules may be required during the course, depending on instruction from your trainer.

Allow up to 40 days to complete the 30 days of training to allow for inclement weather or other delays.

The New Faller Training Course Model:

- All trainers are experienced fallers.
- The lead trainer delivers the first 4 days of classroom and basic chainsaw operation
- The lead and assistant trainers deliver critical falling skills training, with a ratio of 1 trainer to 1 trainee from days 5-30.
- Field sites are appropriate for forestry operations.
- New Faller Training is treated like an actual work day.
- Quality Assurance performed by the BC Forest Safety Council.

Program Outline

1. Relate Training Course to Faller Profession
2. Explain Training and Training Records



3. Identify Related WCB Legislation and Other Legislation
4. Choose and Maintain PPE/Other Safety Equipment
5. Identify Safe Work Procedures
6. Identify Emergency and Evacuation (Written) Procedures
7. Identify Hand Tools and Equipment
8. Determine Chainsaw Suitability
9. Practice Chainsaw Maintenance
10. Demonstrate Chainsaw Operation
11. Identify Limbing, Taping and Bucking Hazards
12. Demonstrate Limbing and Taping
13. Demonstrate the Bucking Process
14. Review Plan of Falling Area
15. Demonstrate Falling Techniques
16. Practice Falling the Tree
17. Managing Faller Hazards
18. Recognize Adverse Weather Hazards
19. Recognize Dangerous Falling Practices

Transportation to Marshalling Area

Participants will be expected to arrange your own transportation to the designated marshalling area. In most cases, the marshalling area is located at the hotel/motel that you will be staying at. Transportation to the field site will be provided.

Accommodations & Food Requirements

Accommodations are coordinated by the BCFSC however participants **MUST** pay before or upon arrival - no exceptions. To keep costs down, participants may be asked if they want to share accommodations. Please allow for a 40 day period when planning for this cost to allow for possible inclement weather conditions and delays. Every effort is made to identify accommodation within close proximity to the field training site. Participants enrolled in the New Faller Training Program will receive accommodation information as soon as it becomes available.

BC Forest Safety Council is not responsible for damage, loss of equipment, or extra fees incurred at accommodations that participants reside in during the course of the program.

Participants are responsible for their own meals.

Tuition:

Participants are responsible for the full payment two (2) weeks in advance of the course start date. Tuition for the 30 day New Faller Training course is cost recovery and is \$27,500 + GST in 2019.



Cost recovery: The BCFSC is a not-for-profit organization. Fees pay for trainers, supplies and other external costs associated with the new faller training course.

Medical Insurance Coverage:

You are required to submit proof of MSP (BC Medical Services Plan) to the College of the Rockies and this will be kept on file for the duration of the program.

WorkSafeBC insurance coverage is provided for participants in this course unless currently employed and being paid by an employer to attend the course. If applicable, it is recommended to get confirmation in writing from the employer of WorkSafeBC coverage during program attendance.

Learning Deficiencies: The trainee must notify the BCFSC and trainer of any learning deficiencies. If the trainer identifies any learning difficulties that have not been disclosed it may result in termination from the training program.

The trainer will make every effort to accommodate learning deficiencies to assist participants in achieving successful training program outcomes. Some potential examples may be color blindness, slower cognitive retention of reading materials and the ability to apply practical safety awareness.

Requirements for Successful Completion of the Course

Assessments will be a combination of class assignments, quizzes, trainer feedback and a final written exam. Participants must receive successful trainer feedback at designated times throughout the course, or be subject to termination. In addition, a minimum passing grade of 75% is required for the written exam. At the end of the program the trainers will provide each successful participant with a Field Skills Record book that will identify the specific level of competence achieved during the training program before entering the 'up to 180 days' work experience.

Code of Conduct

Any and all infractions for the following criteria may impose immediate termination.

Safety

All participants will abide by all safety regulations, legislation, the BC Forest Safety Council Health & Safety Policy and waiver.

Specific safety personal protective equipment (PPE) will be required to be purchased and maintained in excellent condition at the participant's cost.



As in actual faller working environments, it is the Council's responsibility to manage a safe working and learning environment. Your accommodations are considered a 'dry camp' with strict policies which prohibit alcohol or non-prescription drug use day or night. There is a zero tolerance policy regarding drugs and alcohol while enrolled in the New Faller Training program. Violation will be subject to disciplinary process which may include termination from the program.

Attendance

Mandatory full-time attendance is required. You will be held accountable for adhering to the training schedule as an expectation of performance for this program.

If an extreme emergency or extenuating circumstances arise, the Falling Department may approve alternate arrangements to complete the thirty regulated days of New Faller Training at the participant's cost.

Ethical Behavior

The participant is expected to act and perform in a professional manner at all times.

Participants must treat all other participants, trainers, accommodation staff and program administrators with respect and must not engage in physically aggressive, threatening, harassing, discriminatory or otherwise offensive behavior.

Confidentiality will be expected with regards to any and all activities during the course of the training period. You are responsible to report any unsafe and/or illegal practices witnessed to your lead trainer immediately.

Participants must not steal, misuse, destroy or deface property.

Participants must not contravene any provision of the Canadian Criminal Code or any other federal, provincial, or municipal statute or regulation.

Equipment and Supplies

It is your responsibility to have the necessary equipment and supplies when entering the program. It is recommended that you speak with the Lead Trainer prior to purchasing any equipment. Participants are reminded that they are responsible for their own valuables. If you are loaned equipment you are responsible to take good care of it and return it in the shape that you received it.



Terminations and Withdrawals

Cause for termination may arise for the following reasons:

- Participant demonstrates unsafe actions and/or behaviors;
- WorkSafeBC designated high risk violations;
- Participant is physically unfit to perform the required training;
- Participant demonstrates inability to react and make critical decisions in a timely and safe manner and
- Participant displays a poor attitude.

It is incumbent of the trainer to apply “due diligence” and in so, to assess the likelihood of the participant to be able to achieve the appropriate skill level to work safely in a production falling environment. Due to the high hazardous nature of the work activity, participants will be evaluated on an on-going basis throughout their training. If any concerns are identified, the trainer will create a plan and work with the participant to address the concern. If the concern has not been resolved, the student may be removed from the program and issued a prorated refund for tuition. Accommodation arrangements vary and it may or may not be possible to receive a prorated refund for accommodation expenses paid.

All withdrawals from the program must be followed up in writing by the participant.

Refund Criteria - Other

Up to 2 weeks prior to the course start date, a full refund will be issued.

Less than two (2) weeks prior to the course start date, there is no refund, except as noted in the terminations and withdrawal section.

In the event that the course is cancelled or postponed due to circumstances beyond our control, such as weather, tuition fees will either be refunded on a pro-rated basis, or transferred to another course.



Dispute Resolution

The BC Forest Safety Council has a four (4) step dispute resolution process that will be applied in the event of any disputes.

Step 1: Individuals are expected to deal directly with the affected party to which a disagreement has ensued. It is important to ensure clear mutual understanding of expectations and resulting disagreements. Individuals are encouraged to attempt to resolve conflicts or disputes as soon as possible in an informal and respectful manner.

If a conflict occurs, a direct approach is expected with clear explanation of: 1. The specific situation; 2. The result/outcome of the situation; 3. A proposed resolution.

If the parties cannot reach a mutually agreeable resolution, the complainant may proceed to dispute resolution through the organizational structure of BCFSC.

Step 2: If, after working with the trainers/supervisors the complainant is not satisfied with the outcomes/decisions, the disputed may escalate to the BCFSC Coordinator in writing (email). Explanation to include: 1. The situation; 2. The complaint plus the defense; 3. The recommended resolution.

The BCFSC Coordinator will work with the falling management team to resolve the issue and determine the outcome/decision. BCFSC Coordinator will respond to complainant personally by telephone and follow up with an emailed written response.

Step 3: If, after working with the BCFSC Coordinator the complainant is not satisfied with the outcomes/decisions, the dispute may escalate to the Falling Manager. The Falling Manager will make every effort to assist in the resolution of a dispute, including and notwithstanding the further investigation, review and evaluation of the situation or demonstrated behaviors and practices.

Step 4: If, after working with the Falling Manager the complainant is not satisfied with the outcomes/decisions, the complainant can contact the Forest Safety Ombudsman who will investigate the situation and make final decision on the dispute.



Work Placement & Faller Certification

The steps required to become a certified faller are as follows:

1. Completion of 30 day BC New Faller Training Program
2. Work as a trainee faller for 'Up to 180 days' under the direction of a Qualified Supervisor
 - Completion of this 30 day training program authorizes trainees to work as trainee fallers in BC under the direction of a Qualified Supervisor. Participants are responsible to arrange the 'up to 180 days' of falling activity work experience with a Qualified Supervisor. A minimum of 20 Faller Trainee Weekly Training Plan and Progress Reports within the 2 years preceding application for certification must be submitted to the BC Forest Safety Council.
 - 5 of the most recent reports must clearly indicate the trainee is meeting the Standard.
 - The trainee's supervisor must clearly indicate that the trainee is ready to be tested for certification on the weekly report.
3. Apply for certification through the BC Forest Safety Council – additional fee is required.



**Supply List for New Faller Trainees
Faller's Equipment Supply List**

ITEM:	COST*:
Chainsaw suitable for timber type with bar size of 30"-36" and associated tools – <u>DISCUSS WITH TRAINER</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stihl 660 or 046 • Husqvarna 390 or 372 	\$1,309.00
Spare chainsaw chain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stihl chainsaw: 75 JP Oregon • Husky chainsaw: 73 JP Oregon • Ramped raker 	\$40.00
Spare bar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stihl 75/63 gauge • Husky: 73/58 gauge 	\$95.00
Spare rewind rope for chainsaw	\$1.95
Files: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 round, size 7/32 • AND 2 flat files 	\$27.30
File guide: 3/8", blue roller type	\$14.00
Bar nuts, sprocket and clip, and assorted bolts	\$20.50
Gas and oil containers, CSA Approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 gal. combi-can type 	\$25.35
Axe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> COAST:.....27" x 3 ½ lb with pinned head INTERIOR:.....17" x 3 ½ lb with pinned head 	\$26.00
Wedges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 – 10" single taper, KD type • AND 2 – 12" KD type only, red and white WEDGE POUCH MUST FIT 3 WEDGES	\$53.55
Wedge pouch for 3 wedges	\$18.95
Wedge belt: shoulder straps preferred	\$29.95
Husqvarna falling tape	\$102.00
Spare tape rewind	\$23.50
Radio, suitable for outdoor use with mic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio frequency – 152.990: tone – 88.5 – <u>DISCUSS WITH TRAINER</u> 	\$594.00
Ear muff head set	\$140.00
Radio chest pack	\$65.00
Fire extinguisher for wedge belt: squeeze type	\$13.50
Packsack: durable, army surplus type – <u>DISCUSS WITH TRAINER</u>	\$60.00
Work watch – worn on suspenders	\$12.00
Drinking water container for field use: minimum 2 liters	\$6.00
TOTAL:	\$2,677.55

* Prices subject to change



Fallers Personal Protective Equipment Supply List

ITEM:	COST*:
Hard hat (orange): 6 point, with face screen, and ear muffs, new or less than 1 year old and in good condition	\$69.95
Gloves: 6 pairs, white	\$8.10
Safety glasses (optional)	\$13.95
Caulk boots: leather or rubber, in good condition	\$179.95
Spare caulks for boots	\$30.00
First Aid Kit for wedge belt and extra pressure dressing	\$17.25
Falling pants: 3600 or 4100 threshold chain-speed (red or yellow label) in good condition	\$159.95
Suspenders: button type	\$27.95
Whistle: pealess	\$4.95
Hi-Vis apparel:	
-long sleeve shirt with 120 square inches of reflective on front and back	\$35.00
-rain coat (must be Hi-Vis with reflective markings)	\$95.00
-rain pants	\$90.00
Ensure all hi-vis is new or clean, meeting the Standard	
TOTAL:	\$732.05

** Prices subject to change*