



**BCIT School of Construction and the Environment  
Forest and Natural Area Management Program**

---

**Program Expenses for Books, Computers, Field Equipment and Field Lab Supplies**

---

Welcome to the Forest and Natural Areas Management Program (FNAM). You have made an excellent decision by choosing FNAM at BCIT to further your career. BCIT is committed to providing safe, world class applied learning. The FNAM program is especially focused on practical educational opportunities.

**COVID-19:** Please refer to the BCIT website for Institute guidance. At this time we anticipate that course delivery for this fall term will be in person. Stay connected as strategies and policies will be regularly updated. Following provincial health standards and direction; you may continue to need face masks and sanitize as needed. If you have any questions, contact your Program Head Steve Finn, at the email listed at the end of this letter.

**COMPUTERS:** You are required to have your own **PC laptop** with the following:

- Minimum **8GB RAM** memory; **Intel i5 processor** or equivalent
- functioning webcam, microphone (and/or mic enabled earphones)
- High-speed internet connection (30 Mbps Download/10 Mbps upload)
- **Optional:** printer with scanner function. Note: Printers and scanners are available at BCIT Burnaby campus for fee per use.
- **Software for Active BCIT Students: MS Office 365** is available free to registered students at <https://www.bcit.ca/its/software/>

BCITs minimum IT technology requirements are listed at the following link: <https://www.bcit.ca/it-services/student-discounts> Also check the Student & Employee Discount menu link for student discounts.

If you are planning or need to purchase a laptop for school use, we strongly recommend a Windows 10 based laptop. **MAC** computers are not recommended. If you already have a MAC laptop, you will not be able to use the BCIT AppsAnywhere interface to directly access Cloud based software Applications. Your experience will involve a few more steps and the software may not be as responsive. Please note that **Chromebooks and Notebooks** are **NOT** a suitable alternative.

**USB MEMORY:** You will require at least one 16 GB USB drive.

**SMARTPHONES:** A **smartphone** with GPS tracking/location services and 1 to 2 GB data plan is required and is quickly becoming a standard requirement for the workplace (Note: most smartphones have this capability). If you have any questions related to computers or smartphones, please contact the computer contact person noted at the end of this letter.

**CALCULATORS:** You will require a **scientific non-programmable calculator:** the **Sharp EL-546** or **Sharp EL-520** are strongly recommend for the Math courses and most other courses (programmable calculators such as the TI-83 or TI-84 are not permitted in the Math courses in this program). You will require a battery powered Texas Instrument TI 30x or similar scientific calculator for field labs (solar powered is not suitable).

**BOOKS:** The estimated cost of books and guides for the two years is **\$400-\$500**. Your instructors will provide a list of required books and field guides at the start of each course. Most books will be available at the Campus Bookstore but some are readily available at most major bookstores.

**FIELD EQUIPMENT and SUPPLIES:** The estimated expenses for field equipment and supplies are between **\$800** and **\$1000** during the first year and **\$200-\$400** during second year. For a successful experience in your courses it is important that you are prepared and have basic field equipment and supplies. This attached list of equipment and supplies will also form a necessary part of your "field toolkit" in your career. When feasible you will spend much of your learning in field (outdoor) conditions. Labs take place in all kinds of weather conditions and you will need to dress appropriately.

**TRANSPORTATION:** You may incur additional expenses for transportation to field labs, field trips and various optional certification courses. Access to, and available use of a vehicle for transportation to local field lab sites is highly recommended for our programs, as most field sites do not have access by public transportation. You are encouraged to carpool for local field lab sites as much as possible. Covid-19 may alter our mode of transportation, depending on public health orders at the time. A driving license is a requirement for most summer and graduating positions, in this employment sector.

**FIELD EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER:** Motion Canada is our recommended supplier for field equipment, giving you the opportunity to purchase most of the equipment and supplies at a reasonable savings. A purchase order list will be sent to you in mid-July, with ordering and sizing instructions. You will need to place an order directly with Motion Canada. Ideally you will also pick up from their warehouse in Coquitlam, allowing you to try on sized items. Please have the field equipment by the first week of September. If you have any questions please contact the equipment contact at the end of this letter. If you do plan to purchase equipment online (Amazon, Craigslist etc) please make sure that it is from a reputable supplier as there are many similar products of inferior quality on the market. For reference, the Motion Canada Field Solutions Catalogue is available at: <https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=Motion+Canada+Field+solutions+catalogue>

**REQUIRED FIELD EQUIPMENT and FIELD LAB SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ Compass with hinged sighting mirror and declination adjustment. (Suunto MC-2DL or equivalent)
- ✓ Suunto Clinometer: PM5/360PC with % and degree scales
- ✓ Diameter Tape – metric (FRR 283D5M)
- ✓ Loggers/Plot Tape 30m Spencer (with d-Tape on reverse side)
- ✓ 50m fiberglass tape and open reel (Eslon or Lufkin)
- ✓ 14cm X 18.5cm six ring field notebook binder
- ✓ 1x 100 sheet pkg of 8 column waterproof field note book paper that fits the notebook Must have 8 column waterproof note page backed with a metric grid map page,
- ✓ Field Pocket Scale rule (CTH 10029) with 1:5000, 1:10000, 1:20000 scales
- ✓ Tri-Scale Ruler (Staedtler-Mars 987-18-1)
- ✓ Metric Navigational Protractor
- ✓ 10x or 16x mineral hand lens
- ✓ Hard hat – recommend a wide brim style or a regular hard hat with a rain shield, preferably with 6 point suspension
- ✓ Field Map pocket : waterproof see-through plastic case , large enough for a 25cm x 25cm aerial photo and folded maps
- ✓ 20cm x 25cm metric area dot grid 4 dots per square centimeter
- ✓ Cruiser Field Vest (orange) – with WorkSafeBC regulation hi-vis colour and stripes.
- ✓ Safety Boots (Waterproof): As you spend much of your field training time off-trail in forested settings, **we require safety toed caulk boots** (boots with spiked soles) for safe off- trail footing and protection. Make sure you size the boots with insoles and wearing a minimum two pairs of socks (light and heavy). You will also need a pair of hiking boots with ankle support and rugged tread.
- ✓ Hi-Vis Rain jacket and pants good for off trail bush walking. These should be sized for a loose fit to go over field vest and winter clothing. Please, keep your expensive rain gear for recreational use.
- ✓ Personal 1<sup>st</sup> Aid kit, with additional field dressing
- ✓ Personnel safety Whistle : Marine, Fox40 or equivalent (make sure it is pea-less)
- ✓ Safety glasses: hard plastic



**OPTIONAL items: things you might find useful:**

- ✓ Ear plugs (deci-dams)
- ✓ Bama Socks: Highly recommended especially with smaller feet, help to keep feet warm and dry, make sure you fit with boots
- ✓ Pocket flashlight
- ✓ Binoculars, 8x50 or similar power
- ✓ Pocket knife: folding with a locking blade or a sheath-knife (with sheath). Used for probing, vegetation sampling etc.
- ✓ Camera

**Note:** Shop around for the best price and fit. Items such as binoculars, work boots, knives, etc are available at most outdoor stores, major department stores etc.

**If you have any questions about equipment and supplies, please contact:**

Program Head: Steve Finn

e: [steve\\_finn@bcit.ca](mailto:steve_finn@bcit.ca)

Equipment Contact: Jonathan Smyth

e: [jonathan\\_smyth@bcit.ca](mailto:jonathan_smyth@bcit.ca)

Computer Contact: Jason Pon

e: [jpon4@bcit.ca](mailto:jpon4@bcit.ca)

For administrative questions please contact the Program Head or our Program Assistant

Program Assistant: Giti Abouhamzeh: e: [giti\\_abouhamzeh@bcit.ca](mailto:giti_abouhamzeh@bcit.ca) ph: 778 331 1392