



Heavy Equipment Technician

SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION

Overview

Learn how to maintain, repair and overhaul heavy vehicles, transport trailers, heavy-duty off-road vehicles and industrial equipment.

If you enjoy mechanics, precise work and problem-solving, you'll enjoy working as a heavy equipment technician. You'll interpret orders, and diagnose faults and malfunctions before adjusting equipment or repairing and replacing defective parts or systems.

In Alberta, you may specialize as transport-trailer mechanics, truck and transport mechanics, heavy-duty equipment mechanics (off-road) or an overall heavy equipment technician.

To work in this trade, certification is required. This means that you must either be a registered apprentice who is working under the guidance of a certified journeyman or you must be a certified journeyman yourself.

Traits, skills and aptitudes

Heavy equipment technicians are skilled tradespeople who are self-motivated and comfortable working alone or collaborating with others. This line of work is most fulfilling for those who enjoy working with their hands and are mechanically inclined.

To thrive in this career, it is important to have the following traits:

- good vision, hearing and sense of smell to diagnose problems
- the strength and stamina required to work with heavy equipment and work in cramped or awkward positions
- comfort in working alone or with a team
- mechanical ability and an interest in all types of machinery, engines, electronics and precision equipment
- problem-solving skills, logical thinking and keeping up to date with the changes in technology
- a valid driver's license is required to operate equipment for testing purposes
- commitment to safe work practices

Credentials

Upon successfully completing the required working hours and apprenticeship education periods, graduates will be awarded an educational credential in addition to journeyman status by Alberta's Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

Educational credential earned per specialization:

Heavy Equipment Technician	Advanced Diploma
Heavy Equipment Technician - Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic (Off Road)	Diploma
Heavy Equipment Technician - Transport Trailer Mechanic	Certificate of Achievement
Heavy Equipment Technician - Truck and Transport Mechanic	Diploma

Heavy equipment technicians and their select specialties are Red Seal Endorsed trades – a recognizable standard that allows tradespeople to work across Canada.

Admission requirements

To enter an apprenticeship, you must have the educational qualifications required or recommended education for the trade to which you apply.

Entrance requirements are monitored and set by Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

Minimum requirements

Successful completion of the following courses:

- English 20-2
- Math 20-3
- Science 10

OR

A pass mark in all five Canadian General Educational Development (GED) tests

OR

Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Entrance Exam

Recommended requirements

Apprentices with an Alberta High School Diploma that includes the following courses:

- English 30-2
- Math 30-3
- Physics 20 OR Chemistry 20 OR Science 20
- Related career and technology studies (CTS) courses

Costs

2024/25 tuition and fees

The following costs are effective as of July 1, 2024.

Heavy Equipment Technician/On Road/Truck and Transport Mechanics

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total
1	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
2	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
3	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
4	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
Total cost:				\$5,924

The estimated total cost of 2024/25 tuition and fees in each period of technical training.

Heavy Equipment Technician - Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanics (Off Road)

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total
1	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
2	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
3	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
Total cost:				\$4,443

The estimated total cost of 2024/25 tuition and fees in each period of technical training.

Heavy Equipment Technician - Transport Trailer Technicians

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total
1	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
Total cost:				\$1,481

The estimated total cost of 2024/25 tuition and fees in each period of technical training.

Books and Supplies

Books or modules, along with other items for classes, are approximately \$600 per period.

It's recommended you don't purchase books or modules ahead of time as they might be outdated by the time you attend classes, and they cannot be returned to the Bookstore.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be required for the program, which may be an additional cost to apprentices.

2023/24 tuition and fees

The following costs are effective until June 30, 2024.

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total
1	8	\$1,056	\$319	\$1,375
2	8	\$1,056	\$319	\$1,375
3	8	\$1,056	\$319	\$1,375
4	8	\$1,056	\$319	\$1,375
Total cost:				\$5,500

The estimated total cost of 2023/24 tuition and fees in each period of technical training.