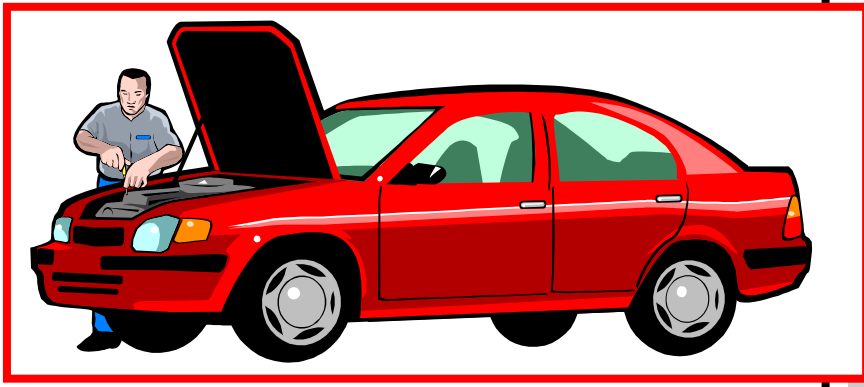


Auto Technology



Career Opportunities

Mechanic

Automotive Engineer

Mechanic

Automotive service technicians and mechanics, often called *service technicians* or *service techs*, inspect, maintain, and repair cars and light trucks.

Automotive Engineer

Automotive engineers design cars, systems and mechanisms. These professionals ensure that automotive designs and systems conform to budgeted quality and cost specifications.

Schooling / License

Mechanic

- High school diploma or equivalent needed
- Completing a vocational or other postsecondary training program in automotive service technology is the best preparation for entry-level positions.
- Certification from the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence is the standard credential for service technicians. Certification demonstrates competence and usually brings higher pay. Many employers require their service technicians to become certified.

Automotive Engineer

- Due to the fact that few colleges offer programs in automotive engineering—those planning to go into the field should earn their bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

Job Outlook

Mechanic

expected to grow 17 percent from 2010 to 2020, about as fast as the average for all occupations.

AVERAGE SALARY

Mechanic
\$35,790

Automotive Engineer
\$91,470

Job Outlook

Automotive Engineer

expected to decline by almost 10 percent due to increased productivity and automation in the automotive industry.