Heating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers

What They Do
Install or repair heating, central air conditioning or refrigeration systems that control the temperature and air quality in buildings. They are sometimes called HVACR technicians or HVAC technicians.

Is This For You?
Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland’s Model). People who tend to succeed in this career are:

Realistic (Doers) - prefer to work with objects, things, machines, tools, plants or animals. They have mechanical ability, enjoy being outdoors and working with their hands.

Conventional (Organizers) - detail oriented and organized. They like to analyze data, keep financial records and do research. They can be counted on to be accurate and enjoy structure and closure.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

Support — Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

Independence — Allow employees to work on their own and make decisions.

Working Conditions — Offer job security and good working conditions.

Abilities reflect a person’s aptitude to acquire skills and knowledge. The following abilities are important for success in the career:

- Problem Sensitivity
- Finger Dexterity
- Near Vision
- Visualization
- Manual Dexterity
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Deductive Reasoning
Basic Skills You Need

• Equipment Maintenance
• Installation
• Quality Control Analysis
• Troubleshooting
• Operation Monitoring

Education & Training

Some post secondary education in a heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) or closely related program is recommended for heating, air conditioning and refrigeration mechanic and installer positions. A registered apprenticeship is another option for preparing for this occupation. To learn more, visit StartTodaySD.com to be connected with a staff person at your nearest Job Service office who can help you get started.

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math 4
Workplace Documents 4
Graphic Literacy 4

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of heating, air conditioning and refrigeration mechanics and installers are:

• Specialty Trade Contractors
• Self Employment
• Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods
• Educational Services
• Federal Government

Employment & Wages

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 Workers</th>
<th>2028 Workers</th>
<th>Numeric Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
<th>Average Annual Demand for Workers</th>
<th>Annual Median Wage</th>
<th>Annual Average Wage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>1,178</td>
<td>1,324</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>$46,220</td>
<td>$47,657</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional References

Labor Market Information Center
www.dlr.sd.gov/lmic

Career OneStop
www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online
www.onetonline.org

mySkills myFuture
https://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/

Provided By

Labor Market Information Center
South Dakota Dept. of Labor and Regulation
605.626.2314

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