Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics

What They Do
Inspect, maintain and repair cars and light trucks. They may work on any part of a vehicle related to how it operates, from engines to brakes. They often confer with customers to discover vehicle problems that need to be repaired, and they also use computerized diagnostic devices to help identify problems.

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.

Investigative (Thinkers) — Interested in science and logic. They like to analyze, evaluate and solve problems, and enjoy learning and understanding the causes of events.

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

Independence — Work on their own and make decisions.

Support — Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

Working Conditions — 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.

- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Control Precision
- Finger Dexterity
- Near Vision
- Deductive Reasoning
- Hearing Sensitivity
- Inductive Reasoning
Basic Skills You Need

- Repairing
- Equipment Maintenance
- Operation Monitoring
- Troubleshooting
- Critical Thinking
- Operation and Control

Education & Training

Some postsecondary education in an auto mechanics program, including hands-on training with current technology, is recommended.

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 to help you get started.

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Level</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Math</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workplace Documents</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graphic Literacy</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of automotive service technicians and mechanics are:

- Automotive Repair and Maintenance
- Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers
- Self Employment

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/

South Dakota Employment & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>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>2018</td>
<td>2,321</td>
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<tr>
<td>2028</td>
<td>2,441</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>$39,372</td>
<td>$41,238</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Provided By

Labor Market Information Center
SD Department of Labor & Regulation
605.626.2314

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