

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY

Is Automotive Service Technology for me?

The field is for you if you ...

- Enjoy working with automobiles and other vehicles.
- Have an interest in electronics.
- Want to use state-of-the-art equipment for diagnosing problems.
- Desire a job with a good salary and potential for advancement.
- Have good mechanical aptitude.
- Can assume responsibility and follow through to completion.
- Are willing to continue attending classes to learn about changes in automotive technology.

What skills will I need for this field?

You will need to ...

- Have a thorough knowledge of automobiles.
- Make quick and accurate diagnosis of a problem.
- Use tools and equipment.
- Repair and adjust automobile mechanical and electrical systems.
- Possess technical reading, writing and math skills.
- Work effectively with others.
- Be able to discuss automotive service and diagnosis with others.

What is the work atmosphere like?

Medium physical activity indoors and sometimes outdoors. Technicians usually work individually and refer to manuals, computer monitors, and diagnostic equipment. Most work between 40-48 hours per week, or longer during busy periods. Technicians are expected to complete a job within a specific amount of time. Must be able to bend and reach, sometimes in awkward positions.

What are my degree options?

Certificate

Automotive Service Technology

Associate's Degree

Associate in Applied Science (AAS)

Bachelor's Degree

Bachelor's degrees are available by transferring to four-year colleges and universities. For example: Southern Illinois University, Ferris State University.

Professional Certification

Optional: Certification in several areas available through Automotive Service Excellence. Certification requires at least two years of experience, passing an exam, and paying fees. Technical education can be substituted for one year of experience. See your instructor for details.

What are my career opportunities?

With a combination of education and experience, technicians will be able to advance to positions such as a service writer, service manager, shop foreman and shop owner. Those who specialize in highly technical areas may receive higher status and wages. There may be positions available as service representatives for major auto or parts companies.

What can I do with these degrees?

If you have completed ...

High School Diploma

Dealership Porter, Detailer, Installer, Parts Store Delivery Person, Small Engine Technician, Technician Helper, Tow Truck Driver

Certificate/Associate in Applied Science Degree

Apprentice Auto Technician, General Service Technician, Parts Counter Person, Service Manager (with years of experience), Service Writer, Shop Foreman

How can I prepare now?

Recommended courses ...

Math

Applied Mathematics, Geometry Fundamentals

Science

Introductory Physical Science, Principles of Technology

Communications

English, Speech, Technical Reading and Writing

Occupational Electives

Foundational and Advanced Automotive

Recommended Supporting Electives

Electronics, Keyboarding

What about my articulated credit?

Check with your high school coordinator to see if you are eligible for articulated credit at College of DuPage.

Bachelor 's Degree

Corporate Trainer, Engineering Technical Support Specialist, Service Manager, Senior Service Writer, Technical Representative, Technical Writer

What should I take in my first semester at C.O.D.?

AST 1110: Engine Design and Operation

AST 1120: Manual Drive Train and Axles

AST 1131: Automotive Basic Electricity

AST 1140: Suspension, Steering, and Alignment

Whom can I talk to for more information?

Business and Technology Division
(630) 942-2592

For further information on the Associate in Applied Science Degree curriculum, see your program coordinator or go to www.cod.edu.