



Heavy Equipment Technician

About this job

Heavy equipment technicians (HET) provide a critical service, helping ensure the safety of heavy vehicles and industrial equipment, and preventing risky, inconvenient, or costly breakdowns. Along with the physical service and repair work, they also interpret technical manuals and complete service reports.



HET FALLS UNDER NATIONAL OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATION
(NOC) CODE #7312/72401



- Four-year program
- Aurora College
- Requires out of the territory technical training
- High Demand Trade
- Mechanical Industry
- Mining

\$147,161

Estimated Average Journeyperson Salary

APPRENTICESHIP, TRADES, AND OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATION

Aussi disponible en français

What can I expect to do for work if I become a HET?

Heavy equipment technicians maintain, repair, and overhaul heavy vehicles and industrial equipment. Maintenance and repair of vehicles and equipment may include:

- internal combustion engines and components, both stationary and mobile,
- tracked equipment, commonly called crawler tractors,
- ground engaging equipment and components,
- earth moving equipment,
- rubber tired equipment, commonly called tractors,
- on-highway and off-highway motor vehicles, commonly called trucks
- towed on-highway and off-highway vehicles, commonly called trailers,
- interpret work orders and technical manuals,
- keep equipment cleaned, lubricated and maintained;
- diagnose faults or malfunctions,
- adjust equipment and repair or replace defective parts, components or systems,
- test repaired equipment for proper performance and ensure that the work done meets manufacturers' specifications and legislated regulations, and
- complete service reports.

What kind of working conditions can I expect?

The working environment for heavy equipment technicians varies considerably from one job to another. Some heavy equipment technicians work in modern laboratories. Others work at construction or industrial sites, sometimes outdoors in all types of weather conditions. Travel requirements and hours of work also vary. There is some risk of injury involved in working with heavy equipment and power tools. However, proper safety standards are maintained at all times.

Eligibility Requirements

Entrance Exam – Pass Exam 5 with a score of 70% or higher
or

Completion of the following high school courses

- English 20-2 (pass) or Literacy 30 (pass)
- Math 10C (pass)
- Science 10 (pass)

or

All five Canadian General Educational Development (GED) tests

SCHOOLS NORTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (SNAP) - SNAP apprentices are not required to satisfy the entrance requirements prior to signing an apprenticeship contract. However, the SNAP apprentice must satisfy the entrance requirements **or** write the TEE before attending technical training.

For more information:

www.gov.nt.ca/Apprenticeship

What are some skills that are valued in this profession?

- 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,
- the ability to work and problem solve alone or as part of a team,
- mechanical ability and an interest in all types of machinery and engines, electronics and precision equipment,
- the ability to think logically and keep current with changes in technology, and
- a valid driver's license to operate equipment for testing purposes.

What is the minimum requirement to become an apprentice in this trade?

Apprentices must obtain a minimum of 70% on the Trades Entrance Exam – TEE Category #2 or the equivalent education as outlined below. This must be done before signing the Apprenticeship contract and attending technical training.

How long will it take to complete a HET apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship takes about four years to complete and includes four on the job periods and four technical training periods. You need to complete 1800 hours per period, for a total of 7200 hours.

How long is technical training?

Apprentices will attend 960 technical training hours. Apprentices usually do the first two levels at Aurora College in **Fort Smith, NT** and **Alberta** for the final two.

Period	Technical Training ¹	Prerequisites for technical training	Hours ²
1st	8 Weeks 240 hours	Entrance Exam and 900 hours	1800
2nd	8 Weeks 240 hours	Completed 1 st Period	3600
3rd	8 Weeks 240 hours	Completed 2 nd Period	5400
4th	8 Weeks 240 hours	Completed 3 rd Period	7200

¹Length of In-School Training

²Minimum Time Required to Complete (Includes Technical Training)