

Agricultural Equipment Technician

Fix the combines, tractors and sprayers that feed the country. A Red Seal trade with some of the best pay in the mechanic world.

TYPICAL PAY

\$77,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$50k to \$114k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

3 to 4 years

after high school

DEMAND

Good

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

No

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK

Farm equipment dealerships, field service trucks, large farms

How you get there

- 1 High school diploma** Grade 12
Shop, math, physics. Growing up around farm equipment is a real advantage, but not required.
- 2 Optional college certificate** 1 year
Saskatchewan Polytechnic runs a 35-week Agricultural Equipment Technician certificate that counts toward apprenticeship and includes dealership work experience.
- 3 Find a sponsor** Weeks
Farm equipment dealerships are actively recruiting. Many hire apprentices straight out of high school or the college program.
- 4 Work and study** 3 to 4 years
Ontario (trade code 425A): 7,000 hours, 6,280 on the job plus 720 in school. Other provinces run 4 periods of roughly 1,500 to 1,800 hours.
- 5 Certificate of Qualification and Red Seal** After your hours
Pass the exam. The Red Seal lets you work in any province.

Pros and cons

- + Among the best-paid mechanic trades in Canada
- + Dealers are short-staffed and recruit hard
- + Huge, complex machines with real technology
- Brutal hours during seeding and harvest
- Most jobs are in small rural towns
- Field work in heat, dust and mud

Optional boosts

Precision agriculture and GPS guidance. Hydraulics and electronics diagnostics. Heavy duty equipment technician (a second Red Seal). Field service.

Good to know

A combine costs more than a house

A new combine harvester with a header can cost close to a million dollars. When it breaks during harvest, the technician who gets it running is the most important person on the farm that day.

Tractors drive themselves

Most new tractors and combines steer by GPS to within a few centimetres. A big part of a modern technician's job is calibrating guidance systems and updating software, not turning wrenches.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Agricultural equipment technician, wages (updated Nov 2025)
Skilled Trades Ontario: Agricultural Equipment Technician (425A)
Saskatchewan Polytechnic: Agricultural Equipment Technician certificate
Red Seal Program

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/agricultural-equipment-technician>



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