

Avionics Technician

The electronics that fly the plane: radios, navigation, autopilot, wiring. A 2-year diploma and one of the best-paid technician jobs in Canada.

TYPICAL PAY

\$84,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$55k to \$119k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

4 to 5 years

after high school

DEMAND

Good

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

No

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK

Airline hangars, aircraft manufacturers, repair shops, air f...

How you get there

- 1 High school diploma** Grade 12
 Math and physics are essential. Electronics or computer courses help.
- 2 Avionics diploma** 2 years
 A 2-year Aviation Technician, Avionics Maintenance diploma at a Transport Canada approved college, such as Centennial in Toronto or Canadore in North Bay. Attendance and grade rules are strict: Centennial requires 95% attendance and 70% in every technical course to g...
- 3 Get hired** Weeks to months
 Airlines, repair shops, manufacturers and the air force hire graduates as apprentice technicians. You work under licensed engineers who sign off your work.
- 4 Build experience** 2 to 3 years
 An approved diploma counts for 18 months toward the experience Transport Canada requires. The rest, roughly 2 to 3 more years, comes from logged work.
- 5 AME (aircraft maintenance engineer) licence, E rating** After your experience
 At 21 or older, with the experience logged, pass the Transport Canada regulatory exam. Approved graduates are exempt from the technical exams.

Pros and cons

- + High pay for a 2-year diploma
- + Federal licence that works anywhere in Canada
- + Airline travel benefits
- Nights, weekends and cold hangars
- Strict attendance and grade rules in college
- Years of logged experience before the licence

Good to know

College counts for 18 months

Graduates of a Transport Canada approved avionics program get 18 months of experience credit toward the AME (aircraft maintenance engineer) E licence and skip the technical exams. Skip the approved...

You must be 21 to sign

Transport Canada will not issue an AME (aircraft maintenance engineer) licence to anyone under 21, no matter how much experience they have. Most technicians hit the experience requirement and the...

Optional boosts

AME (aircraft maintenance engineer) licence, E rating. Add an M rating. Type training. Inspection and quality roles.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Avionics technician, wages (updated Nov 2025)
 Transport Canada: Licensing of aircraft maintenance engineers
 Transport Canada: Obtaining an AME licence
 Centennial College: Aviation Technician, Avionics Maintenance

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/avionics-technician>



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