

Telecommunications Technician

Install and fix the fibre, cable and cell equipment that keeps Canada online. A college diploma or on-the-job training, then a company van.

TYPICAL PAY

\$70,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$45k to \$89k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

1 to 3 years

after high school

DEMAND

Limited

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

No

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK

Customer homes, cell towers, data centres, company vans

How you get there

- 1 High school diploma** Grade 12
 Grade 12 with math, physics and any computer or electronics class.
- 2 Training** Several months to 2.5 years
 A 2-year college diploma in telecommunications, electronics or network technology; or the Network Cabling Specialist apprenticeship in Ontario (about 4,600 hours: 4,000 on the job plus 600 in school); or a carrier's own training program after being hired as an installer.
- 3 Field technician** 1 to 3 years
 Install and repair internet, television and phone service, then move to fibre, business services or network equipment.
- 4 Certifications and specialties** Ongoing
 Fibre splicing, structured cabling certifications, tower climbing and rescue, or network vendor certificates.

Pros and cons

- + Cheap, fast entry with a diploma or on-the-job training
- + Company van, tools and steady hours at the carriers
- + Fibre and 5G builds mean real work for years
- Job Bank rates prospects as limited in Ontario, Quebec and BC as carriers cut costs
- Contract installers are paid per job with little security
- Ladders, poles, towers, crawlspaces and weather

Good to know

Fibre is thinner than a hair

A single strand of optical fibre is glass about the width of a human hair, carrying data as pulses of light. Splicing two strands together means aligning them to within a fraction of a hair's width, which is wh...

Canada is wiring the countryside

The federal government has set a target of high-speed internet for every Canadian household by 2030, with billions in funding for rural and northern fibre and wireless projects. Somebody has to run all tha...

Optional boosts

Fibre optic splicing and testing. Tower technician. Central office or data centre technician. Business and enterprise services.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Telecommunications technician, wages (updated Nov 2025)

Job Bank: Telecommunications equipment installation and cable workers, job description and requirements

Skilled Trades Ontario: Network Cabling Specialist (631A)

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/telecommunications-technician>



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