

Truck and Coach Technician

Fix diesel trucks and buses for fleets and transit agencies. Better pay than cars, with pension jobs.

TYPICAL PAY

\$68,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$45k to \$95k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

4 to 5 years

after high school

DEMAND

Good

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

Yes

regulated job

WHERE YOU WORK

**Fleet garages, transit agencies,
truck dealerships, bus companies**

How you get there

- 1 High school diploma** Grade 12
 Grade 12 with math, physics and shop. OYAP (Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program) or Alberta's RAP (Registered Apprenticeship Program) lets you start early.
- 2 Find a sponsor** Weeks to months
 Truck dealerships (Kenworth, Peterbilt, Freightliner, Volvo), trucking fleets, bus companies, school bus operators and transit agencies. Transit agencies post apprentice openings publicly.
- 3 Register the apprenticeship** Days
 With Skilled Trades Ontario (trade code 310T), Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training, SkilledTradesBC or your province's authority.
- 4 Work and study** 4 years
 Ontario requires 6,720 hours: 6,000 on the job plus 720 in school over three college blocks.
- 5 Certificate of Qualification and Red Seal** After your hours
 Pass the exam. The Red Seal title is Truck and Transport Mechanic, valid across Canada.

Pros and cons

- + Better pay than car repair, with pension jobs in transit
- + Paid apprenticeship, no student debt
- + Hourly pay is common, not flat rate
- Nights and weekends at fleets and transit
- Diesel exhaust, grease and cold yards
- Heavy parts, even with hoists

Optional boosts

Air brake endorsement and a truck licence. Electric and hydrogen bus training. Emissions and aftertreatment specialist. Truck-trailer service technician (a second trade).

Good to know

Canada runs on trucks

Most of the goods Canada trades with the US cross the border on a truck. Every one of those trucks has a maintenance schedule.

Toronto's bus fleet

The TTC (Toronto Transit Commission) runs about 2,100 buses and is building one of the largest electric bus fleets in North America. Its garages run 24 hours a day.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Truck and transport mechanics, wages (updated Nov 2025)

Skilled Trades Ontario: Truck and Coach Technician

Red Seal Program

Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training

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/truck-and-coach-technician>



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