

Electronics Service Technician

Find out why a machine full of electronics stopped working, and get it running again before the shift ends.

TYPICAL PAY

\$74,090

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$47k to \$106k

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

**Factories, utilities, broadcast sites,
service vans, repair benches**

How you get there

- 1 High school diploma** Grade 12
Algebra, physics and any shop or computer class. Take apart anything broken you are allowed to take apart.
- 2 Electronics program** 1 to 2 years
A one-year certificate or a two-year associate degree in electronics technology at a community college or technical school. Digital logic, circuits, instrumentation and bench time.
- 3 Entry technician job** First year
Bench repair, calibration or assisting on service calls. Expect 6 to 12 months of learning your employer's equipment before you go out alone.
- 4 Certification** 1 to 3 years in
The Certified Electronics Technician credentials from ETA International (the Electronics Technicians Association) start at an associate level and move up by specialty.
- 5 Specialist or field service** 3 to 5 years in
Industrial controls, broadcast transmitters, medical equipment or automation. This is where the pay jumps.

Pros and cons

- + A well-paid career after one or two years of cheap schooling
- + Genuine problem solving, different every day
- + Overtime and callouts are paid, often at a premium
- The occupation is shrinking nationally
- On-call rotations, night callouts and travel
- Working around live equipment and dangerous voltages

Good to know

Repair became a political fight

Several states, starting with New York in 2022, have passed right to repair laws forcing manufacturers to sell parts, tools and manuals to independent technicians. The whole argument exists because so mu...

The military is the biggest training school

A large share of working electronics technicians learned the trade in the Navy, Air Force or Coast Guard. The training is long, paid, and lands you in civilian service work with experience nobody else has at 22.

Optional boosts

Industrial controls and automation. Biomedical equipment. Broadcast and radio frequency. Calibration and metrology.

Where these numbers come from

My Next Move: Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Commercial and Industrial Equipment (49-2094.00)
ETA International: electronics technician certifications
National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies
Apprenticeship.gov: apprenticeship job finder

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in United States dollars, based on Bureau of Labor Statistics wage data and published pay scales. They vary by state, employer and experience. Tuition is for in-state students at public schools unless the card says otherwise. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/us/careers/electronics-service-technician>



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