

ASE Certification

Those who have worked as an apprentice mechanic for two years qualify to take a series of ASE certification exams. The certification proves one's commitment to the field and allows for a more specialized career path. The annual salary increase for those with their ASE Certification is \$10,000 a year.

Other related majors

Diesel mechanics students may also pursue bachelors and higher degrees in other related majors including: Engineering Technology, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering to enhance their knowledge and skillsets and advance their careers.

Bachelor of Science in Diesel Technology

Students can pursue a BS in diesel technology where they will spend four years learning a vast array of aspects of the diesel repair and maintenance field. They spend time in the classroom learning about engines and systems, diagnostics, welding, and electrical/fuel systems. This is coupled with time in the garage putting their knowledge to practical application to be used in the workforce.

General Education Courses

Written Communication
Mathematics
Natural Science
Social Science
Humanities/Fine Arts
Technology

Diesel Technology Courses

Diesel Electrical Systems
Automatics
Heating and Air Conditioning
Shop Procedures
Welding Theory
Heavy Duty Power Trains
Diesel Engine Diagnosis & Repair
Advanced Fuel Systems
Hydraulics and Pneumatics

Diesel Technology Program

Requirements for these programs may vary by institution (public, private, for-profit), however; the typical program length is 20 months and all programs seek to mimic workflows found in the real world and to provide students with relevant hands-on experience. Program variations are typically due to specific industry needs in a local area, as technical programs are often designed around industry input to ensure students are prepared for the local workforce. Students in these programs will become proficient in many aspects of diesel repair and diagnostics. Programs prepare students for their ASE exams and graduation allows students to become exempt from one of the two years of required experience before becoming ASE Certified. To qualify students for ASE certification, programs must be ASE (formerly NATEF) accredited.

Typical Program Credentials

Certificates (stackable):
Preventative Maintenance
Service Technician Helper
Diesel Engine Assembler
Diesel Technician Apprentice
Diesel Technician Assistant
Diploma:
Diesel Technician

Diesel Course List

Gasoline & Diesel Engine Services and Repair
Diesel Truck Manual Transmission
Diesel Truck Brake Systems & Chassis
Diesel Truck Steering & Suspension Systems
Automotive Climate Control Systems & Repair
Diesel Truck Transport Refrigeration
Diesel Truck Preventative Maintenance
Diesel Hydraulic Systems
Vehicle Electronic Systems

Diesel Mechanic/Heavy Truck Maintenance Career Diploma

These abbreviated programs are designed to equip students with knowledge and skillsets that enable them to more rapidly enter the workforce. Such programs may be completed in as little as seven months. Typical programs include instruction on repairing diesel engines, brake systems, and shop safety practices. These programs also help students prepare for the ASE Certification in Medium-Heavy Trucks.

Typical Courses

Truck Electrical Systems
Truck HVAC Systems
Tires, Suspension and Steering
Truck Electronics and Engine Controls

Typical Courses

Intro to Diesel Truck Mechanics
Truck Maintenance Fundamentals
Truck Engines
Fuel Systems
Drivelines and Transmissions
Troubleshooting and Repair

High School Diploma

Transportation-related career academies