

Occupational Profile



Heating & AC Mechanics

OVERVIEW

Install, service, or repair heating and air conditioning systems in residences and commercial buildings. Belongs to the Architecture and Construction career cluster and Construction career pathway.

DOES THIS DESCRIBE YOU?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Realistic**—Involves work activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions; often dealing with plants, animals, and real-world materials like wood, tools, and machinery.
- **Conventional**—Enjoy following set procedures and routines developed through higher authority; includes working with data and details more than with ideas.
- **Investigative**—Involves working with ideas requiring an extensive amount of research, fact finding, problem solving, and thought analysis.

Work Styles depict worker characteristics conducive for this career:

- **Attention to Detail**
- **Independence**
- **Analytical Thinking**
- **Dependability**
- **Initiative**

Work Values are associated with aspects of work that provide satisfaction in this career:

- **Working Conditions**—Job security; good working conditions.
- **Independence**—Autonomy; working on your own.
- **Support**—Management backing.

Aptitudes reflect an ability to acquire skills and knowledge for success in this career:

- **Problem Sensitivity**
- **Finger Dexterity**
- **Near Vision**
- **Visualization**
- **Manual Dexterity**

SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE NEEDED

Basic Skills:

- Equipment Maintenance
- Installation
- Quality Control
- Troubleshooting
- Operation Monitoring

Technology Skills:

- Customer Relationship Management Software
- Data Base User Interface and Query Software
- Graphics or Photo Imaging Software
- Spreadsheet Software
- Word Processing Software

Knowledge:

- Mechanical
- Customer and Personal Service
- Building and Construction
- Design
- Physics



ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2014 Estimated Employment	2024 Projected Employment	2014-24 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,795,100	1,949,240	154,140	0.9	58,145
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	70,155	77,670	7,510	1.1	2,385
Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Install	3,315	3,940	625	1.9	115

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>

2017 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Mean Wage	Mean Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Exp Wage	Exp Salary
Total All Occupations	20.93	43,539	10.09	20,991	26.35	54,813
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	21.36	44,429	13.63	28,357	25.22	52,466
Heating, A C, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	24.09	50,098	16.04	33,355	28.11	58,470

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-employment-and-wages>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Postsecondary	None	Long-Term On-The-Job

A postsecondary degree is required for most heating and air conditioning mechanic positions with additional training received from industry-based programs and/or apprenticeships.

Sources: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>, https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_education_training_system.htm, and <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level	Minimum Skill Level	Maximum Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	4	3	6
Locating Information	4	3	6
Reading for Information	4	3	7
Applied Technology	4	3	6
Business Writing	1	1	2
Workplace Observation	3	2	3
Listening for Understanding	2	2	3

An ACT assessment-based credential issued in determining essential work skills needed for employment success across industries and occupations. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5,

PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Heating & AC Mechanics Employed?)

Specialty Trade Contractors
Self Employed
Merchant Wholesalers
Repair & Maintenance
Government

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>



ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

This workforce product was funded by a grant by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner. This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Updates, revisions, and/or corrections made periodically. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov. Visit www.iowalmi.gov to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document. Published 9/2017.