

What can you do with a major in Diesel Equipment Technology?

Campus(s) program is offered: North Metro

What are the most likely job titles one can expect to qualify for once completely this program?

Diesel Equipment Technicians
Diesel Mechanics
Repair Technicians
Diesel Repair Specialists

What are some essential skills a student needs to have in order to be successful in program of study?

- Physical strength, stamina, agility
- Comfortable working indoors or outdoors
- Adept at using complex tools and computers
- Consistently follow strict safety guidelines and procedures
- Manual dexterity

What are typical skills and abilities that a student gains once he/she has completed the program?

- Diagnose major systems in diesel and heavy equipment industry
- Repair major systems in diesel and heavy equipment industry
- Service major systems in diesel and heavy equipment industry
- Practice personal and professional work habits
- Document complaint, cause and correction

Typical work activities/occupational functions:

Diesel technicians usually work indoors, although they occasionally make repairs to vehicles on the road. Diesel technicians may lift heavy parts and tools, handle greasy and dirty parts, and stand or lie in awkward positions to repair vehicles and equipment. Minor cuts, burns, and bruises are common, although serious accidents can usually be avoided if the shop is kept clean and orderly and safety procedures are followed. Technicians normally work in well-lighted, heated, and ventilated areas; however, some shops are drafty and noisy. Many employers provide lockers and shower facilities.

What additional training would you recommend for a student who wants to go to the next level in this field?

Technicians need a State commercial driver's license to test-drive trucks or buses on public roads. Practical experience in automobile repair at a gasoline service station, in the Armed Forces, or as a hobby is also valuable. Employers often send experienced technicians and mechanics to special training classes conducted by manufacturers and vendors, in which workers learn the latest technology and repair techniques. Technicians constantly receive updated technical manuals and service procedures outlining

changes in techniques and standards for repair. It is essential for technicians to read, interpret, and comprehend service manuals, in order to keep abreast of engineering changes.

Do any of the occupational courses transfer easily?

The Diesel Equipment Technology is a diploma program. The occupational courses could be transferrable based on the school you wish to attend.

What are some common limitations, if any, in this program that students face?

Must be physically fit because some parts are large and heavy
Must be good health

Are there any exams/certifications that a student needs to take after completing the courses? Are these exams/certifications offered on campus?

Voluntary certification by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) is recognized as the standard of achievement for diesel service technicians and mechanics. Technicians may be certified as Master Heavy-Duty Truck technicians or in specific areas of heavy-duty truck repair, such as gasoline engines, drive trains, brakes, suspension and steering, electrical and electronic systems, or preventive maintenance and inspection. The exams/certifications are not offered at Chattahoochee Tech.

Possible employment settings:

- Trucking companies or bus lines
- Fleet owners or mass transit operations
- Construction companies
- Department of Transportation
- Local government fleet maintenance
- Independent diesel repair and maintenance shops

Names of employers:

- First Transit
- IGL
- Vanguard Truck Center of Atlanta
- Progress Rail Services
- Import Trucks of Atlanta
- Crete Carriers
- Thomas Concrete of Georgia
- Quest Global, Inc.

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