

Heating, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers

Entry wages (2015): \$15.08 per hour or \$31,373.00 annually

Projected growth (2015-2025) Faster than average at 20.8% in Tarrant County

What will you do?

Heating, air conditioning and refrigeration mechanics and installers (HVACR Technicians) work on heating, ventilation, cooling and refrigeration systems to control the temperature and air quality in various types of buildings-residential, commercial and other types.

Where will you work?

HVACR technicians will work inside homes, schools, hospitals, office building, factories, hotels, or stores. They work indoors, and often times outdoors even during bad weather. Due to the nature of the work environment, they are often performing work in awkward or cramped spaces. HVACR Technicians typically work full time schedule with the possibility of overtime, evenings and weekends.

What Experience do you need?

Employers generally prefer applicants with postsecondary education or those who have completed an apprenticeship.

What type of Training do I need?

The [Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation](#) is the regulatory and licensing agency. There are three levels of HVAC that the state requires licensure for-Registered Technician, Certified Technician, and Licensed Contractor where each must pass a criminal background check. Registered Technician is considered entry level that doesn't require formal education. Certified Technician level requires formal education recognized by TDLR, and passing the exam. The Licensed Contractor is the most desirable to achieve in the industry for the ability to perform public contracts, and to hire technicians. Formal education is not required to obtain a license as a Contractor, but verifiable work experience of 5 years in the HVAC industry, passing the exam for commercial refrigeration, and chosen selection of class level A or B. Training programs are available for all levels as well as an Associate Applied Science Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Technology. Degreed professionals are required to follow the same state licensing requirements as certificate program graduates. The [Refrigeration Service Engineers Society](#) (RSES) offers EPA certification and specialized-knowledge certificates. Certifications can be helpful because they show that the technician has specific competencies. Some employers actively seek out industry-certified HVACR technicians. Continuing education is required for license renewal for Contractors from an approved provider listed with TDLR.



49-9021.00 – Heating, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers (ONET Code)

What else should I know?

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation determines if a criminal conviction will deny a license application. They advise for all applicants with a criminal background to complete the [Criminal History Evaluation letter](#) before applying for a license to know if their criminal background will be reason for denial.

Approved Tarrant County Training Programs

Provider	Program Name	Hours (Contact/Credit)	Cost	Pell Eligible
Lindsey-Cooper Refrigeration School	EPA Certification Seminar	6/0	\$150.00	No
Tarrant County College-South	Installation Technician, Heating/AC-	448/20	\$1,400.00	Yes
Tarrant County College-South	Service Technician-Certificate	592/24	\$1,450.00	Yes
Lindsey-Cooper Refrigeration School	Refrigeration/Heating/Air Conditioning	108/0	\$1,975.00	No
University of Texas at Arlington	HVAC Technician Certificate	320/0	\$3,095.00	No
Texas A & M University-Corpus Christi	HVACR Certified Technician (Online)	265/0	\$3,795.00	No
Tarrant County College-South	Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration	1376/64	\$4,650.00	Yes
Perfect Technician Academy	HVAC Maintenance Service Technician	269/0	\$8,000.00	No
Perfect Technician Academy	HVAC Repair Service Technician	348/0	\$15,771.00	No
Perfect Technician Academy	HVAC Residential Installation Technician	376/0	\$15,821.00	No

*This information is subject to change. See a Workforce Center Career Counselor for more information.



Career Pathway Map – HVACR Occupation

