

JOB DESCRIPTION

Wind turbine technicians:

- Assist engineers and ironworkers in installing new wind turbines
- Inspect the physical integrity of wind turbine towers
- Climb wind turbine towers to inspect and repair wind turbine equipment
- Test and troubleshoot electrical, mechanical, and hydraulic components and systems
- Replace components as needed
- Collect turbine data for testing, research, or analysis
- Service transmission systems, wind field substations, or fiber optic sensing and control systems

PAY

\$62,580 median annual wage (30.09 per hour) as of May 2024

JOB OUTLOOK

50% (Much faster than average) 2024-2034

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Wind techs typically attend technical schools or community colleges to earn a postsecondary certificate in wind energy technology or an associate degree.

IMPORTANT SKILLS/ATTRIBUTES

- Ability to work at heights. Wind techs must be comfortable working at heights to maintain or repair turbines. Tower ladders are usually at least 200 feet high.
- Communication skills. Wind techs must exchange information with other wind techs or specialists, such as electricians, to work effectively.
- Detail-oriented. Wind techs must maintain records of all of the services they perform, which may include precise measurements, a strict order of operations, and numerous safety procedures.
- Mechanical skills. Wind techs must maintain and repair a turbine's various technical systems.
- Physical stamina. Wind techs must be able to climb turbine towers, usually with tools and equipment.
- Physical strength. Wind techs must lift heavy equipment, parts, and tools weighing 50 pounds or more.
- Problem-solving skills. Wind techs must diagnose and repair turbine issues.

CERTIFICATE & DEGREE PROGRAMS

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (Cleveland)

Industrial Maintenance Technology Degree, Associate of Applied Science: A two-year, 63-credit-hour program prepares students to diagnose and resolve industrial equipment problems using diagnostic assessment skills and core troubleshooting skills.

catalog.tri-c.edu/programs/industrial-maintenance-technology-aas/

Industrial Maintenance Technology Certificate, Certificate of Proficiency: A one-year (full-time) or two-year (part-time) program covering the processes and applications required to become an Industrial Maintenance Technician. Includes both general electrical and mechanical training, but also specific facility maintenance training on all the aspects involved in keeping a facility fully operational.

catalog.tri-c.edu/programs/industrial-maintenance-certificate-proficiency/

PINNACLE CAREER INSTITUTE (online)

Primarily an online program that requires a 10-day boot camp held in Kansas City, Missouri. If full-time, the program takes approximately 40 weeks to complete and includes Fundamentals of Electricity, Alternative Energy Systems, Industrial Safety, Fundamentals of Hydraulics, Principles of Wind Energy, and Wind Physics Operations/ Maintenance.

www.pcittraining.edu/programs/wind-turbine-technician

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

TRAINING IN OHIO: www.onetonline.org/link/localtraining/49-9081.00?st=OH

US DEPT OF ENERGY CAREER MAP: www.energy.gov/eere/wind/wind-career-map