

# Career Connections

## Heating and Air-Conditioning Mechanics and Installers

### Description of Work

Install, service, or repair heating and air-conditioning systems in residences or commercial establishments.

### A Day in the Life (Some Typical Activities)

Repair pipes to stop leaking. Test electrical circuits or components for proper functioning. Service heating, ventilation or air-conditioning (HVAC) systems or components. Replace worn, damaged, or defective mechanical parts. Repair worn, damaged, or defective mechanical parts. Confer with customers or users to assess problems. Install HVAC equipment. Adjust equipment to ensure optimal performance. Interpret blueprints, specifications, or diagrams to inform installation, development, or operation activities. Connect electrical components or equipment. Document operational activities. Inspect systems to determine if they are operating properly. Install energy-efficient HVAC equipment. Advise others on issues related to repairs, installation, or equipment design. Drill holes in parts, equipment, or materials. Cut materials according to specifications or needs. Measure distances or dimensions. Position equipment using hand tools, power tools, or heavy equipment. Assemble mechanical components or machine parts. Fabricate parts or components. Install insulation in equipment or structures.

### Skills needed

- Quality Control Analysis - Testing how well a product or service works.
- Troubleshooting - Figuring out what is causing equipment, machines, wiring, or computer programs to not work.

## Heating and Air-Conditioning Mechanics and Installers

### Annual Projected Job Openings (CA)

1,050

### Annual Projected Job Openings (USA)

8,420

### CA Wages

\$30,790–\$87,940

### USA Wages

\$28,440–\$73,350

### Required Education (To Start)

- Postsecondary certificate.
- Some states require an occupational license to work in this career.

### Desired Experience

More than one-year on-the-job training.

*Source: CareerOneStop.*

### Skills needed (continued)

- Equipment Maintenance - Planning and doing the basic maintenance of equipment.
- Installation - Installing equipment, machines, wiring, or computer programs.
- Repairing - Repairing machines or systems using the right tools.
- Operation Monitoring - Watching gauges, dials, or display screens to make sure a machine is working.
- Active Listening - Listening to others, not interrupting, and asking good questions.
- Judgment and Decision Making: Thinking about the pros and cons of different options and picking the best one.
- Critical Thinking: Thinking about the pros and cons of different ways to solve a problem.