Diesel Technology

Diesel technology is a hands-on, high-tech career that is in demand. Diesel technicians repair, service and maintain diesel powered equipment. You might work on buses, trucks, farm and construction equipment. Potential employers include trucking companies, large equipment dealers and local governments. Our students benefit from state-of-the-art training labs, thanks to corporate partners such as CASE Construction and The Victor L. Phillips Company. Start-up a promising career at Washburn Tech!

Learning at Washburn Tech

This program prepares you to apply technical knowledge and skills to work on light and heavy wheeled diesel-powered equipment. Instruction, covering several types of equipment, includes tune-up and overhauling, transmissions and differentials. Attending full-day, you can complete the program in two semesters and earn a technical certificate. Students attending half-day can complete the program in four semesters. You also may complete an Associate of Science Degree or more advanced degree at Washburn University.

Job and Salary Outlook

Career opportunities are expected to be excellent for people completing formal training programs, such as the one at Washburn Tech. Currently, there is a high demand in Kansas for diesel technicians. According to the Kansas Department of Labor, the average entry-level salary for a diesel technician in 2013 was $15.62 an hour or $32,493 annually. The median wage was $20.07 or $41,755 annually.

Entry Requirements

Students are required to take the ACT WorkKeys and score a minimum of 4 in both Reading and Math. Other assessments or college coursework can be accepted in place of WorkKeys. Please see a recruiter for details. Students also must complete an application and submit an official copy of all transcripts.
Course Descriptions

Safety Orientation/OSHA-10: focuses on general safety, workplace safety and first aid

Electrical/Electronic Systems:

Workplace Skills: covers general workplace skills including personal effectiveness, time management, teamwork and critical thinking

Hydraulics: principles of basic hydraulics and introduction to hydraulics systems

Suspension and Steering: covers types of steering and suspensions used in light through heavy trucks, procedures in disassembly, wear and failure analysis and basic principles of various systems

Brakes: covers components and types of braking systems for light through heavy trucks

Welding for Diesel: introduces basic concepts of general welding; hands-on lab activities to apply knowledge and develop skills in shop safety, cutting (oxy/acetylene) and Shielded Metal Arc Welding

Advanced Electrical/Electronic Systems: covers proper use of wiring schematics to troubleshoot electrical systems on light through heavy vehicles

Drive Trains: covers the characteristics and principles of power train units including diesel drive trains, drive shafts, power take-offs and standard transmissions

Diesel Engines I: introduces theory of operation and use of engine’s mechanical components

Advanced Diesel Engines: covers principles of various engine systems

Engine Performance: provides theory, diagnosis and service of diesel fuel and emission systems

Drive Trains II: covers automatic transmission and torque converters, clutches, drive axles and special drives

Auxiliary Power Units: covers the purpose, operation and maintenance of auxiliary power units found on vehicles

Class A CDL: covers trucks in the 54,000 lb. tag weight used in construction as well as dump trucks and tractor trailers, components of trucks, safe operation of vehicles, pre- and post-trip inspections

* A list of required tools/books is on a separate sheet of paper and on our website, WashburnTech.edu. Students also will need to purchase supplies such as (but not limited to) pens/pencils, notebooks/paper, three-ring binder, etc. Students may purchase them at the vendor of their choice.