

Installation & Repair Career Guide

A guide for first-line supervisors of mechanics; installers and repairers; security and fire alarm systems installers; electrical power line installers and repairers; maintenance and repair workers.



Finding Your Way to a Career: Installation & Repair

Installers and repairers within the construction industry do exactly what the title suggests. They install or restore machinery, equipment, and other products to working order. Typically, these roles also provide regularly scheduled maintenance checks on products to ensure they work properly and prevent the product from breaking down unnecessarily.

How to use this document to learn more.

As one of the Top 100 Hot Jobs for 2022, installation and repair is a promising occupation for job seekers in West Michigan. To find out if this might be a good career choice for you, use this Career Map to examine:

- Who might enjoy this kind of work.
- Qualifications needed in this career field.
- Growth potential and levels of pay.
- Valuable skills for this type of work.
- Common tools and technology used in this work.
- Occupations, responsibilities, and other job titles.

This information is drawn from national data and insights from West Michigan employers. It is meant as a starting point for job seekers and career coaches to work together in the exploration of meaningful and fulfilling careers.



Exploring Occupations in Installation & Repair

Installers and repairers are essential to the upkeep of products and machinery in construction. Installers and repairers may perform work tasks such as inspecting equipment to locate or identify problems, testing electrical equipment or systems to ensure proper functioning, and troubleshooting equipment or system operation problems, all of which is done in a safe manner. Installers and repairers have great problem-solving and evaluation skills.

The Path to Success

Who might enjoy this type of work?

People who work in the installers and repairers field tend to enjoy:

- Practical, hands-on problem solving.
- Working with real world materials like wood, tools, and machinery.
- Following set procedures and routines.
- Working with data and details more than with ideas.
- Having a clear line of authority to follow.
- Working with projects, starting and carrying out tasks that provide solutions.
- Being the decision maker while leading a group of people.

People who do well in this work generally perform well in such areas as:

- Responsibility
- Teamwork
- Adaptability
- Achievement
- Decisiveness

Qualifications needed in this career field.

Nationally, most people working as an installer or repairer have some college education but no degree. The next largest group has earned an associate degree or apprenticeship certificate.

Sample certifications include:

First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers sample credentials: HVAC certification, EPA universal certification,

Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers sample credentials: NICET (National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies) certification, Cisco Certified Network Associate - security clearance.

Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers sample credentials: commercial driver's license (CDL), journeyman lineman.

Maintenance and Repair Workers, General sample credentials: high school diploma, associate degree, maintenance technician certificate, one year on-the-job training.

Growth potential and levels of pay.

In the West Michigan counties of Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon and Ottawa, there were 7,870 installation and repair jobs in 2020. That number is projected to grow by at least 3% to 8,016 by 2025.

Valuable skills for this type of work.

Tasks and functions performed by installers and repairers include:

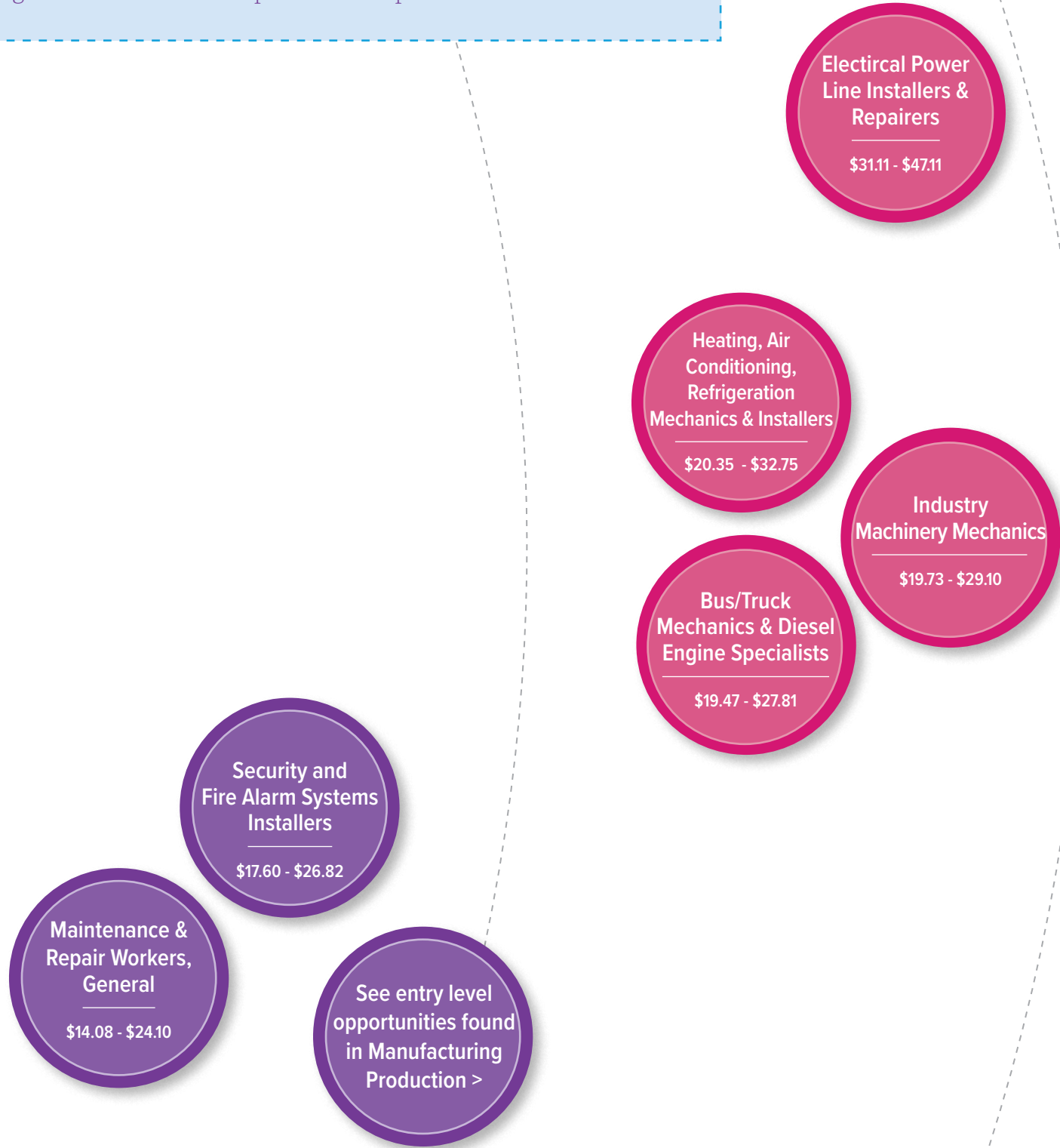
- Inspecting equipment, structure, or material.
- Communicating with supervisors, peers, or subordinates.
- Getting information.
- Making decisions and solving problems.
- Identifying objects, actions, and events.

Common tools and technology used in this work.

Tools: circuit breakers, nail guns, alarm systems, pliers

Technology: computer-aided design software, inventory management software, facilities management software

Wage ranges represent 25th - 75th percentile.
 Timeframes represent the typical education and experience combined.
 See page 6 for detailed description of occupations.



Mapping a Career:
 First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers
 Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers
 Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers
 Maintenance and Repair Workers

LESS THAN 2 YEARS

2-4 YEARS

5-9 YEARS

10+ YEARS

Installation & Repair: A Field Guide

Occupations, responsibilities and other job titles.

First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers

Directly supervise and coordinate the activities of mechanics, installers, and repairers. May also advise customers on recommended services. Excludes team or work leaders.

Examples of locally used job titles: electrical foreman, facility maintenance supervisor, maintenance foreman, maintenance manager, maintenance planner, maintenance supervisor, production crew supervisor.

aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs.

Examples of locally used job titles: building maintenance mechanic, building mechanic, equipment engineering technician, maintenance engineer, maintenance man, maintenance mechanic, maintenance technician, maintenance worker.

Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers

Install, program, maintain, and repair security and fire alarm wiring and equipment. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes.

Examples of locally used job titles: alarm technician, fire alarm technician, home security alarm installer, install technician, installation technician, installer, security installation technician, security installer, security technician, service technician.

Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers

Install or repair cables or wires used in electrical power or distribution systems. May erect poles and light or heavy duty transmission towers.

Examples of locally used job titles: A Class lineman, apprentice lineman third step, Class A lineman, electric lineman, electrical lineman (power), electrical lineworker, journeyman lineman, lineman, lineworker, power lineman.

Maintenance and Repair Workers, General

Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of a building in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; HVAC maintenance; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing,



West Michigan Works! is part of the statewide Michigan Works! system and the workforce development agency in West Michigan. We serve the employers and job seekers of Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon and Ottawa counties.

We partner with employers, educators, economic developers and community organizations to create a qualified workforce that meets our region's current and future talent needs and fuels our shared economic future.

Learn more at: <https://www.westmiworks.org/>



CareerPoint helps students and job seekers find their place in the world of work by matching interests and abilities with training, support, and meaningful and rewarding careers.

By providing training and tools, CareerPoint supports the workforce professionals who help people navigate the West Michigan job market.

CareerPoint promotes evidence-based coaching to help students and job seekers discover and follow pathways to rewarding careers. This model follows seven steps to each participant's success.

Learn more at: <https://talnetcareerpoint.org/>