AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Employment of automotive service technicians and mechanics is expected to increase slower than average, as compared to other occupations through the year 2021. Additional job openings will be due to the need to replace a growing number of retiring technicians, who tend to be the most experienced workers. The increasing use of advanced technology in automobiles will also lead to new opportunities for repair technicians, especially those with specialized skills or certifications. Technicians and mechanics must continually adapt to changing technology and repair techniques. Workers with expertise in certain makes or models of vehicles, or with an advanced understanding of certain systems, such as hybrid-fuel technology, will be in demand. JCCC’s automotive technology program holds master certification under guidelines for the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation/Automotive Service Excellence (ASE). ASE-certified training programs must meet strict industry standards tools, equipment, course of study, facilities, and instructor qualifications. Technicians can expect steady work even when there are down turns in the economy, employers will cut back on new hires instead of letting experienced workers go.

Employment Information

**Greater Kansas City Area:** In 2016, automotive service technicians and mechanics held an estimated 6,124 jobs in the fifteen counties that make up the Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), with 6,165 projected by 2021 (+0.7%).

**State:** Automotive service technicians and mechanics held an estimated 7,893 jobs in Kansas in 2016, with 7,797 jobs projected by 2021 (-1.2%). (-96)

**National:** Automotive service technicians and mechanics held 881,247 jobs in 2016, with 898,764 jobs projected by 2021 (+2%). Approximately 17,517 openings are expected due to growth and the need for replacement workers.

Salary Information

**Greater Kansas City Area:** Automotive service technicians and mechanics employed in the Greater Kansas City area earned an average hourly wage of $16.80 in 2016.

**State:** Automotive service technicians and mechanics in Kansas earned an average hourly wage of $16.00 in 2016.

**National:** Automotive service technicians and mechanics working full-time earned an average hourly wage of $16.63 in 2016.

September 2017
JCCC Placement and Salary Information

The JCCC Office of Institutional Research conducts a follow-up study of program completers one year after completion. Seventy-five percent of the graduates who responded to the follow-up study conducted during 2015-16, and were employed, were employed in a related field and reported earning an average hourly wage of $15.00.

Note: Salary Information for Greater Kansas City, State, and National is based on EMSI 2016 third quarter data. JCCC information for career program completers is based on data supplied by respondents to follow-up studies and is not necessarily representative of all career program completers. Other sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics