

Elevator and Escalator Installers and Repairers

SOC: 47-4021 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$106,580

Median Salary

24,200

Employment

+5.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: High school diploma

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Medium Risk - 35.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

■ Work-Life Balance

6.1/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	9.4/10	Investigative	5.8/10
Artistic	4.0/10	Social	5.0/10
Enterprising	5.0/10	Conventional	6.0/10

■ Top Skills Required

Ability to work at heights, Detail oriented, Mechanical skills, Physical stamina, Physical strength, Troubleshooting skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Elevator and Escalator Installers and Repairers are highly skilled trades professionals who install, maintain, and repair **elevators, escalators, moving walkways, and related vertical transportation systems**. Their work ensures that people and goods move safely and efficiently within buildings such as offices, hospitals, transit hubs, and high-rise residential towers. This occupation combines mechanical, electrical, and electronic expertise with strict safety standards.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy complex technical work, problem-solving, and working on critical infrastructure systems.

What Do Elevator and Escalator Installers and Repairers Do?

These professionals handle the full lifecycle of vertical transportation systems, from installation to long-term maintenance and emergency repair.

Common responsibilities include:

- Installing elevators, escalators, and moving walkways
- Assembling motors, cables, control panels, and safety devices
- Inspecting systems to ensure proper operation and compliance
- Diagnosing mechanical, electrical, or electronic malfunctions
- Repairing or replacing worn or faulty components
- Performing routine preventive maintenance
- Responding to breakdowns and emergency service calls

Types of Elevator and Escalator Work

Installers and repairers may specialize by system or work focus:

- New Installation Technicians: Install systems in new buildings or major renovations.
- Maintenance Technicians: Perform routine inspections and servicing.
- Repair and Modernization Technicians: Upgrade or repair aging equipment.
- Escalator and Moving Walkway Specialists: Focus on horizontal and inclined systems.
- Adjusters and Inspectors (advanced roles): Fine-tune systems and verify performance and safety.

Skills and Abilities Needed

Elevator and escalator installers and repairers combine multiple technical disciplines.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Training Pathway

This occupation typically requires extensive formal training and apprenticeship:

- High School Diploma or Equivalent: Typical minimum requirement
- Apprenticeship Program: Multi-year paid training combining classroom instruction and hands-on work
- On-the-Job Experience: Progressive responsibility under supervision
- Licensing or Certification (where required): Required in many states or cities
- Continuing Education: Updates on new technologies and safety standards

Where Do Elevator and Escalator Installers and Repairers Work?

These professionals work in buildings and facilities that rely on vertical transportation:

- Commercial Office Buildings and High-Rises
- Residential Towers and Apartments
- Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities
- Airports, Subways, and Transit Stations
- Shopping Centers and Public Buildings
- Construction and Maintenance Service Companies

Work may take place indoors, in mechanical shafts, or at construction sites.

How Much Do Elevator and Escalator Installers and Repairers Earn?

Earnings vary based on experience, location, and union status:

- Apprentices: Earn wages that increase with training progress
- Journeyman Technicians: Typically earn high wages due to skill level
- Senior or Specialized Technicians: May earn more with expertise or supervisory duties

Compensation often includes overtime and strong benefits.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career is physically demanding and technically complex. Installers and repairers work with heavy components, high-voltage systems, and safety-critical equipment. The challenge lies in maintaining precision, safety, and reliability in environments where mistakes can have serious consequences.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy advanced mechanical and electrical work
- Are comfortable working in confined spaces or at heights
- Prefer a skilled trade with strong pay and job security
- Can follow strict safety and technical procedures
- Like solving complex, real-world problems

How to Prepare Early

- Study math, physics, and basic electricity
- Develop strong mechanical and troubleshooting skills
- Learn safe use of tools and equipment
- Research apprenticeship opportunities and requirements
- Build physical stamina and safety awareness

Elevator and escalator installers and repairers keep modern buildings moving, ensuring safe, reliable vertical transportation through technical expertise, precision, and unwavering attention to safety.