

Telecommunications Technicians

SOC: 49-2021 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$64,310

Median Salary

8,600

Employment

-3.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: See Requirements (BLS)

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 25.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■■ Work-Life Balance

6.4/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	8.8/10	Investigative	7.4/10
Artistic	4.4/10	Social	5.6/10
Enterprising	4.6/10	Conventional	6.4/10

■ Top Skills Required

Ability to work at heights, Color vision, Customer-service skills, Dexterity, Mechanical skills, Physical stamina, Physical strength, Problem-solving skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Telecommunications Technicians install, maintain, and repair **telephone, internet, and other communication systems**. They ensure network reliability, troubleshoot issues, and support communication infrastructure. Their work is critical in telecommunications, information technology, and business operations.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy technical problem-solving, working with electronic systems, and hands-on troubleshooting.

What Do Telecommunications Technicians Do?

These professionals set up, maintain, and repair telecommunications equipment to ensure effective communication services.

Common responsibilities include:

- Installing, testing, and maintaining telephone, internet, and data systems
- Troubleshooting and repairing equipment and network problems
- Configuring hardware and software for communication systems
- Conducting inspections and preventive maintenance
- Maintaining accurate service and maintenance records
- Collaborating with engineers, network administrators, and customers
- Ensuring compliance with safety and industry standards

Key Areas of Telecommunications Technology

Technicians may focus on specific systems, services, or network components:

- Installation and Setup: Setting up communication lines and equipment
- Maintenance and Repairs: Diagnosing and fixing hardware or network issues
- Network Testing and Monitoring: Ensuring performance, signal quality, and reliability
- Customer Support: Assisting clients with equipment and service issues
- Safety and Compliance: Following regulations and safety protocols

Skills and Abilities Needed

Telecommunications technicians combine technical, analytical, and practical skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires formal education and technical training:

- High School Diploma or GED (minimum): Basic math, reading, and communication skills
- Vocational or Technical Training: Courses in electronics, telecommunications, or network technology
- On-the-Job Training: Learning installation, maintenance, and troubleshooting procedures
- Certifications (optional): Industry certifications in networking, cabling, or telecommunication systems
- Continuous Learning: Staying updated on new technologies, equipment, and communication standards

Where Do Telecommunications Technicians Work?

They are employed in organizations that provide communication services and maintain infrastructure:

- Telecommunication Companies
- Internet Service Providers

- Cable and Satellite Companies
- Government and Public Utilities
- Corporate and IT Departments

Work environments include offices, field sites, data centers, and client locations.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires technical knowledge, problem-solving skills, and physical dexterity. Technicians must troubleshoot complex systems, work in varied conditions, and maintain service quality.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy working with telecommunications and electronic systems
- Are analytical, detail-oriented, and hands-on
- Can troubleshoot and solve technical problems
- Have strong communication and collaboration skills
- Want a career maintaining reliable communication networks

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in electronics, telecommunications, networking, or computer technology
- Gain experience through internships, volunteer work, or technical programs
- Develop skills in equipment installation, troubleshooting, and network monitoring
- Learn about safety protocols, industry standards, and regulatory requirements
- Explore certifications in telecommunications, networking, or technical support

Telecommunications technicians install, maintain, and troubleshoot communication systems, ensuring reliable and efficient networks for businesses, organizations, and communities.

*Generated by StartRight • Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics & O*NET*

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/telecommunications-equipment-installers-and-repairers-except-line-installers.htm>