The Anoka Technical College Automotive Technician diploma is a 60-credit program that prepares graduates for an entry level career in the automotive service industry. Most entry level automotive technicians start as tire or lube techs. Within a few months they will be performing many routine service tasks and perform simple repairs. It usually takes two to five years of on-the-job training to become a journey-level technician. This means that the technician is skilled enough to perform difficult repairs. However, graduates of a college-level training program are often able to advance to that level in a shorter period of time.

### Program Learning Outcomes

By completing this program, students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

1. Develop the knowledge and demonstrate an understanding of automotive related systems, components, terminology and acronyms.
2. Develop and demonstrate knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential to the automotive repair industries expectations of performance.
3. Demonstrate the ability to utilize computer and non-computer based vehicle service information systems.
4. Use automotive tools, shop and test equipment, materials, and chemicals safely and effectively.
5. Develop critical and creative thinking processes required to effectively and efficiently diagnose and repair vehicle technical problems.

### Admission Requirements

Next Generation Accuplacer reading score must be above 232 or equivalent to be accepted into the program.

### Course Prerequisites

Some courses may require appropriate test score or completion of basic math, basic English and/or reading courses with a “C” or better.

Auto 2005 Supervised Internship I - course prerequisites:

- Due to employer insurance requirements, a minimum age of 18 may be required for internship participation.
- Students are required to possess or expect to receive a valid Driver’s License prior to the start of the Internship.

### Graduation Requirements

All Anoka Technical College students seeking an Associate in Applied Science (AAS), diploma, or certificate must meet the cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher.

### Transfer Opportunities

To see how credits from this program may transfer into other Anoka Technical College programs or into a program at another college, visit:

- Minnesota Transfer
- Anoka Technical College transfer student

### Industry Information

With more than 230,000,000 light-duty cars and trucks on the road in the United States alone, there will always be jobs for qualified technicians. One of the automotive technician’s most in-demand and valuable skills is the ability to make a quick and accurate problem diagnosis. This requires a thorough knowledge and understanding of light-duty vehicles and their systems. Good reasoning abilities and critical thinking along with the ability to locate and understand vehicle service information is also important. Daily, the technician will rely on computerized service information to locate system theory of operation, diagnostic and troubleshooting procedures, specifications, repair procedures and technical service bulletins as they service customer vehicles. It may be necessary to provide accurate repair estimates and communicate with customers and coworkers.

Many technicians will perform a variety of repairs while others will seek additional training in order to specialize. Areas of specialization include the diagnosis and repair of engines or transmissions, electrical systems, driveability or performance (fuel and ignition), air conditioning, suspension systems and wheel alignment. Due to the ever increasing use of electronics and new technology in the vehicles of the future, your ability to adapt and continue learning will be very important.

There are many other related career paths within the automotive service/sales area including merchandising, parts and vehicle sales. Experienced technicians who are able to communicate well with customers may become service advisors. Those with leadership abilities may advance to supervisory or management positions and manufacturer representatives. Some may elect to open their own repair shops.

### Wages/Outlook/Advancement

Wage information is available from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

### Start Dates

Fall Semester.................................................................August

### Program Sequence

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- AUTO 2175 Automotive Climate Control and Service ....... 4
- AUTO 2187 Automotive Computer Systems and Driveability 4

Faculty Contact

Dave Holmquist .............................................................. 763-576-4187
Dave Larson ................................................................. 763-576-4019
Dave McFarland ............................................................ 763-576-4193

For information on how to apply, to schedule a tour, or for service during summer hours, contact Enrollment Services at 763-576-7710 or EnrollmentServices@anokatech.edu

Also see: Automotive Technician AAS