

MOTIVE POWER

NOC 7321

ALIGNMENT AND BRAKES TECHNICIAN (A.C.A., restricted certified trade)

WORK DESCRIPTION

What would I be doing?

Alignment and Brakes Technicians specialize in braking and steering systems and in alignment of wheels. They diagnose and repair:

- faulty alignment of wheels,
- faulty steering mechanisms,
- problems with axles and frames,
- faulty brakes and braking systems and controls,
- torsion bars, joining pins, ball joints, and bushings.

Alignment and Brakes Technicians:

- use hand and power tools to correct or replace faulty parts,
- consult service and owner manuals,
- advise customers of potential problems and proper maintenance procedures.

There is a great variety of problems to solve and tasks to perform. A Service Technician normally works a standard 40-hour week changing brake pads, turning rotors, lubricating joints, and topping up brake and steering fluids..

PLACE OF WORK

Who needs Alignment and Brakes Technicians?

- retail industry,
- automotive repair shops,
- service stations,
- car or truck dealerships.

CONDITIONS OF WORK

An Alignment and Brakes Technician is a restricted certified trade.

A person must have a valid Certificate of Qualification or be registered as an apprentice to work in this trade. An apprentice **may** be paid wages.

SALARIES/WAGES

The salary depends on the employer, years of experience, and level of training. In unionized places the wages and conditions of work are negotiated collectively.

In the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area, Alignment and Brakes Technicians can earn \$ 17.00 - \$ 21.01 per hour, averaging \$ 19.54 per hour.

(Next)

PROSPECTS of EMPLOYMENT in the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area

RATING: *fair*

Growth in the automotive industry is heavily controlled by the economy.

APPRENTICESHIP IN THE ALIGNMENT AND BRAKES TECHNICIAN TRADE

- takes about 2 ½ years or 5 000 h (including 720 h of post secondary in-school training), prior education and experience may shorten the time to complete all the competencies,
- must complete apprenticeship to receive a Certificate of Apprenticeship and must pass the Provincial Qualifying exam to receive a Certificate of Qualification with journey person status,
- Interprovincial Trade Certification (Red Seal) is not available.

In-School Education:

An OYAP student must be 16 years old and completed Grade 10 (or equivalent). Otherwise, all apprenticeship applicants must successfully complete Grade 12 (OSSD) or equivalent. The following competencies are valuable:

English, *Communication skills,*
Mathematics, *mechanical aptitude,*
Transportation Technology (Mechanics),
Design Technology (Drafting).

OYAP students must be full-time students in high school and those who obtain apprenticeships will complete the apprenticeship curriculum in college or an approved Training Delivery Agent.

Specific skills learned in school are:

safety, using and maintaining tools and

equipment, suspension and steering and brake systems, suspension systems, steering systems.

On the Job Training

- As a high school Cooperative Education credit (towards O.S.S.D.), learning is connected to one of the school subjects.
- The Apprentices must follow a program in the Apprenticeship Training Standards book which is given to them in the workplace when they register. As each competency is achieved the employer signs it off.

OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

A Certificate of Qualification (as a journey person) or registration as an apprentice in the trade is required to start working as an Alignment and Brakes Technician. After becoming a journey person a technician may:

- become a foreperson or a supervisor,
- start own automotive repair shop,
- work in related areas or occupations.

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Parts Person,
- Automotive Service Technician,
- Inspector, Tester, Assembler.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Whom should I call?

School Guidance/Co-Op Office

Apprenticeship Office 519 675 7788

London: 1 800 265 1050

Apprenticeship web www.edu.gov.on.ca

EMOLTB web site: www.localboard.on.ca

Training Hotline: 1 800 387 5656

Union: