

ST. LOUIS REGION'S AERO CAREERS ROADMAP

Post High School

If you're interested in an aerospace career but not four years of college, these are the programs and initiatives you should focus on after high school to secure one of the high-paying jobs below ➡ Two Year Community College Programs — Trade School — Apprenticeship Programs — Employer Lead Training Programs

Aircraft | Avionics Equipment Mechanics | Technicians

STL Median: \$82,300

Install, test, adjust, and repair equipment and systems in aircraft. Sample positions:

- Airframe & Powerplant (A&P) Mechanics
- Avionics Technicians
- Designated Airworthiness Representatives (DARs)
- Inspection Authorized (IA) Mechanics & Repairmen

Requires: Postsecondary education, such as a certificate from an FAA-approved program OR associate's degree OR high school diploma plus on-the-job training or military experience.

Outlook: 5% job growth expected in the U.S., about 13,400 openings annually. STL MSA had 60% more jobs than other similarly sized metros.

Electrical | Electronics Installers | Repairers

STL Median: \$81,900

Install or repair a variety of electrical equipment. Sample positions:

- Commercial and Industrial Electrical and Electronics Equipment Repairers and Installers
- Powerhouse, Substation and Relay Electrical and Electronics Repairers

Requires: High school education plus most specializations require advanced education and/or work experience.

Outlook: 1% job growth expected in the U.S., about 10,100 openings annually.

Mechanical Engineering Technologists | Technicians

STL Median: \$80,400

Help mechanical engineers design, develop, test and manufacture machines and other devices.

Requires: Associate's degree OR postsecondary training.

Outlook: 2% job growth expected in the U.S., about 3,500 openings annually.

Aerospace Engineering | Operations Technologists | Technicians

STL Median: \$77,400

Run and maintain equipment used to develop, test, produce and sustain aircraft and spacecraft.

Requires: Associate's degree OR high school diploma plus completed certificate program.*

Outlook: 8% job growth expected in the U.S., about 1,100 openings annually. STL MSA had 2.13X more openings than other similarly sized metros.

Electro-Mechanical | Mechatronics Technologists | Technicians

STL Median: \$65,600

Operate, test, and maintain electromechanical or robotic equipment.

Requires: Associate's degree or postsecondary certificate.

Outlook: About 1,300 openings annually.

Calibration Technologists | Technicians

STL Median: \$54,900

Inspect, adjust, and test measurement devices against standards, such as those used in manufacturing, healthcare and other industries.

Requires: Associate's degree or other post-secondary training in a technical or scientific field OR high school diploma plus on-the-job training.

Outlook: 6% job growth expected in U.S., about 1,300 annually.

Metal | Plastic Machine Workers

STL Median: \$50,800

Set up and operate equipment that cuts, shapes and forms metal and plastic. Sample positions:

- Machine Setters
- Foundry Mold and Coremakers
- Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) Tool Programmers
- Patternmakers

Requires: High school diploma plus 1 year on-the-job training. CNC tool programmers often need postsecondary education.

Outlook: About 91,800 job openings expected annually in the U.S.



Assembling aircraft engines

