

CAREER ONE-PAGER

Maintenance Technician

When a line goes down, you're who they call.

Diagnose it, fix it, get production moving, then find the problem before it happens again.

\$63,380

median pay in Dallas-Fort Worth

~6,380

openings a year in Texas

- **Train:** an industrial maintenance certificate or diploma at a DFW college, such as Tarrant County College (Industrial Technician) or TSTC North Texas in Red Oak. Ask for the total cost in writing.
- **Next:** robotics, controls, electrical, or running the maintenance team
- **Try it:** take the fit check at techniciansofdfw.com, or ask your counselor about a plant tour
- **See the national profile:** techniciansofamerica.com → [Role Library](#) → [Industrial Maintenance Technician](#)

Your counselor can help you find a program and a tour. Take the 10-question fit check at techniciansofdfw.com/careers. No email needed.

Pay: BLS OEWS, Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington metro, May 2025. Openings: Texas Workforce Commission via Projections Central, 2024 to 2034 (statewide). Programs: college websites, October 2026.

CAREER ONE-PAGER

Machinist Technician

You make the part that didn't exist this morning.

Program and run CNC equipment to cut metal to thousandths of an inch.

\$59,830

median pay in Dallas-Fort Worth

\$71,060

once you can program the machine

- **Train:** a precision machining or CNC certificate at Dallas College, Tarrant County College, or TSTC North Texas. Ask for the total cost in writing.
- **Next:** CNC programmer, quality, tooling
- **Try it:** a SkillsUSA machining event, or a shop tour

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CAREER ONE-PAGER

Robotics Technician

Somebody has to set up the automation, program it, and keep it running. That's you.

Set up, program, and maintain the automated equipment running the line, from conveyors and packaging machines to robotic arms and the controls behind them.

\$52,160

median pay in Dallas-Fort Worth

\$93,340

what the top 10% earn in DFW

- **Train:** a mechatronics or automation certificate (Dallas College and Tarrant County College both offer one), or start in maintenance and add controls
- **Know this:** more automation has meant more technicians, not fewer. Everybody needs humans, even robots.
- **Try it:** your school's robotics team counts
- **See the national profile:** techniciansofamerica.com → [Role Library](#) → [Industrial Robotics Technician](#)

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CAREER ONE-PAGER

Instrumentation & Control Technician

You read what the plant is telling you.

Calibrate and troubleshoot the sensors and controls that keep a process in spec.

\$75,580

median pay in Dallas-Fort Worth

+\$12,000

a year more than maintenance

- **Train:** an electronics, electrical, or automation certificate at a DFW college
- **Good fit if:** you like figuring out why as much as fixing what
- **Try it:** electronics or physics, plus a tour of a power, chemical, food, or electronics plant
- **See the national profile:** techniciansofamerica.com → [Role Library](#) → [Instrumentation & Controls Technician](#)

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