

Career Focus on...

Energy Utility Technology

Introduction

- Do you enjoy working outside?
- Are you interested in working in an industry that plays a vital role in keeping society running?
- Would you be interested in learning the specialized knowledge related to circuits, generation, transmission and distribution of electricity?

If you answered “yes” to these questions, you may want to consider a career in Energy Utility Technology.

Did You Know... ?

- The laws that regulate power sources change regularly; an Energy Utility Technology certificate can help keep you up-to-date on changes in the utility world.
- Many area homes and businesses are retrofitting their property in order to be more energy-efficient.
- QCC’s Energy Utility Technology Certificate includes an onsite practicum that provides students with the real world experience that employers demand.
- A certificate can be a first step towards earning an Associate’s degree. Students who complete an Associate’s degree at QCC may be able to transfer to a variety of schools to continue their education.

Energy Utility Technology @ QCC

The Energy Utility Technology Certificate at QCC provides students with an overview of the energy industry, knowledge of direct and alternating current circuits and related issues such as the generation and distribution of power, occupational safety, and the laws governing power providers. In addition to the coursework, the students will gain real world experience with a second semester practicum.

Upon completion of this certificate the graduate can continue his/her education towards an Associate’s degree in Electronics, Electromechanical Technology, or Telecommunications and/or enter the workforce in an entry-level position such as Electronics Technician.

Career Options

METER READER

Median Annual Salary: \$35,400
Recommended Education: H.S. diploma
www.onetonline.org/link/summary/43-5041.00

TELECOMMUNICATIONS LINE TECHNICIAN

Median Annual Salary: \$48,090
Recommended Education: H.S. or G.E.D. and technical training
www.bls.gov/oco/ocos195.htm

LINE INSTALLER/REPAIRER

Median Annual Salary: \$54,290
Recommended Education: H.S. diploma
www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/line-installers-and-repairers.htm

ELECTRICAL POWER LINE INSTALLER

Median Annual Salary: \$55,100
Recommended Education: High School diploma (H.S.) or G.E.D. and technical training
www.bls.gov/oco/ocos195.htm

SUBSTATION MAINTAINER

Median Annual Salary: \$65,230
Recommended Education: H.S. or G.E.D. and technical training
<http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes492095.htm>

ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS REPAIRER: POWERHOUSE, SUBSTATION, AND RELAY

Median Annual Salary: \$67,450
Recommended Education: Vocational school training, related on-the-job experience, or an Associate’s degree
www.onetonline.org/link/summary/49-2095.00

Worcester Area Employers

- NSTAR
- Northeast Utilities
- National Grid
- Second Generation Energy LLC
- Unitil
- Western Massachusetts Electric Company

Next Steps

Wondering if energy utility technology is right for you?

- Take a Career Assessment to match your interests with potential careers:
www.qcc.mass.edu/t3/ort/sites.html#careerassess
- Research the web links on this *Career Focus* page, as well as links suggested online under Career Information: www.qcc.mass.edu/t3/ort/sites.html#careerinfo
- Conduct an Informational Interview with someone employed in the field. For more information on how to do this, review the Informational Interview links online:
www.qcc.mass.edu/t3/ort/sites.html#infointerview
- Attend a Career Planning Session. For more information, and the current schedule, visit Career Academic Personal Success (CAPS) online:
www.QCC.edu/services/academic-advising/career-academic-personal-success
- Speak with an Advisor:
www2.qcc.mass.edu/advising/
- Speak with QCC Faculty who teach energy utility technology courses.

Sources Used

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition*:

- Line Installers and Repairers:
www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/line-installers-and-repairers.htm
- Electrical and Electronics Installers and Repairers: www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/electrical-and-electronics-installers-and-repairers.htm

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Career Guide to Industries, 2010-11 Edition:

- Utilities:
www.bls.gov/ocsc/cg/cgs018.htm

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Employment Statistics: Occupational Employment and Wages, May 2010*

- 49-2095 Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Powerhouse, Substation, and Relay:
www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes492095.htm

O*NET Online:

- Summary Report for: 43-5041.00 - Meter Readers, Utilities:
www.onetonline.org/link/summary/43-5041.00
- Summary Report for: 49-2095.00 - Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Powerhouse, Substation, and Relay:
www.onetonline.org/link/summary/49-2095.00

Quinsigamond Community College, Online Course Catalog:

- Energy Utility Technology Certificate :www.qcc.edu/academics/technology/energy-utility-technology

Professional Associations

- American Public Power Association:
www.publicpower.org
- Association of Energy Service Professionals:
www.aesp.org
- Electric Utility Benchmarking Association:
www.euba.com
- Utilimetrics:
www.utilimetrics.org

Positions Entered by QCC Graduates

- Field Service Technician
- Solar Panel Layout Designer

Employment, Co-op, Internship, or Service Learning Opportunities

Contact the Career Placement Services Office:
www.QCC.edu/services/career-placement-services

Specific Transfer Information

- Start at the QCC Transfer web site:
www.qcc.mass.edu/transfer
- Make an appointment online with the Transfer Advisor:
www.qcc.mass.edu/transfer/calendar
- Email questions to:
transfer@qcc.mass.edu