Automation Technician

What They Do

Automation Technicians are responsible for the installation, operation, and maintenance of computer and robotic systems used in a variety of agricultural sectors. They provide service and maintenance in a timely manner, this may include 24/7 emergency service. They must be proficient in multiple skill clusters including electricity & electronics, fluid power, mechanical systems, and manufacturing processes.

Job Duties

- Communicate status, manage expectations, resolve issues, and insure top-quality service
- Assist on installation and potentially work during automation equipment start up
- Work with team members, site customers, and leadership on assigned projects
- Provide expertise to continue advancement of automated systems throughout a site
- Install, maintain and inspect control system and workstation installations throughout a facility
- Schedule maintenance on automation technology to ensure its peak performance
- Ensure machines are properly calibrated
- Be part of a rotating schedule to provide 24/7 emergency service
- Look up and order maintenance and service parts for customers
- Provide system operation training on the assigned automation systems
- Attend employer continual training on Virtual Management System products

Job Earnings

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(2019 Median Annual Salary)

Median Annual Salary: $60,000
- Bottom 10% Annual Salary: $45,000
- Top 10% Annual Salary: $80,000

Education/Training

Automation Technicians must have a high school diploma.

Job Outlook

Automation Technician positions are expected to grow over the next decade. Many agricultural businesses in New York are adding automation to their operation, which is driving this growth.

Automation Technician - Career Pathway

Ways to Start Preparing for Your Future Career TODAY!

1 **Middle/High School Classes to Take:**

- Agriculture Classes
- Computers
- Physics
- Mathematics

2 **Clubs/Extracurricular Activities:**

- Future Farmers of America (FFA) Club (www.FFA.org)
- 4-H (www.4-H.org)
- GCC Tech Wars (www.TechWarsGCCNY.org)
- Young Dexter's STEAM Camp for Grades 6-8 (www.BEAGenesee.com)

3 **Local BOCES/Career & Technical Education Programs:**

- Genesee Valley BOCES (www.GVBOCES.org)
  - Electro-Mechanical Trades Program (Batavia Campus ONLY)
  - Programming & Interactive Media (Batavia Campus ONLY)
  - Metal Trades (Batavia & Mt. Morris Campuses)
- Monroe2-Orleans BOCES (www.Monroe2BOCES.org)
  - Residential & Commercial Electrical
  - Computer Technology
  - Engineering & Metal Fabrication: Welding
- Orleans-Niagara BOCES (www.ONBOCES.org)
  - Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering
  - Computer Technology
  - Electricity/Electronics
- Finger Lakes Youth Apprenticeship Program (www.fingerlakesyouthapprenticeship.org)

4 **Local Colleges/Training:**

- SUNY Alfred (www.alfredstate.edu)
- SUNY Cobleskill (www.Cobleskill.edu)
- SUNY Morrisville (www.Morrisville.edu)