

SHANNON SMITH

DIESEL/EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROFILE



EDUCATION



AVTEC-Alaska's Institute of Technology
Seward, AK

Diesel/Heavy Equipment Technologies
AED Accredited Program

Graduation Date: June 2012

Winner: 2012 Tools Scholarship,
The mikeroweWORKS Foundation



HOME: Anchor Point, Alaska



CAREER GOAL

After finishing the Heavy Diesel Course at AVTEC, I plan to work as a technician close to home, and work with my stepfather in Prudhoe Bay. Eventually, I would like to take on more responsibilities and move up into management.

630.574.0650

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CAREER QUESTION AND ANSWER

1. How did you become aware of the equipment technician career opportunity?
My passion for mechanics is such that whenever I was around mechanical things I wanted to learn more. My brother and stepfather work with their hands and I like that kind of work.
2. What were the factors in your decision to choose to be an equipment technician?
Factors included family advice, my interests, and curiosity of how engines work. It is a solid career that will always be in demand.
3. What do you like about being an equipment technician in your current job?
I am in school right now, but feel the challenges and the variety of different tasks will keep the job interesting. Technology is always advancing so there is always going to be something new to learn.
4. How do you recommend that a student explore this career opportunity?
Take mechanics classes in High School. If you can work around any working equipment, do it as a summer job. See if it is something you really like. If it is not interesting to you look for another field that you really like.
5. How do you suggest that students prepare for an equipment technician career?
Get as much training as possible on a variety of types of equipment. Choose a great technical school such as AVTEC - Alaska's Institute of Technology. Always be ready to learn new things as this field adds new technology all of the time
6. What type of education should students get to prepare to work as a technician?
Beyond tech school always jump at the chance to get factory training whenever possible.
7. What are your thoughts and plans for your career moving into the future?
I really want to work in the field for at least 5 years then possibly move into a management position.
8. What else do you want others to know about your experience and this career choice?
Work hard, study hard; it is fast paced and you really have to stay on your toes and keep up with the current technology. It is a lot of hard work but gives you a feeling of success.
9. What are the benefits you see to a career in equipment technology?
It is always changing and there is new technology to learn. You can go anywhere in the world basically if you want as there are always jobs. There is always the need for someone to do the work as it can't be done by a robot.