




# THE AED FOUNDATION'S ACCREDITED COLLEGE PROGRAM

## WHAT IS AN ACCREDITED COLLEGE PROGRAM?

The AED Foundation's (AEDF) Accredited College Program is the only North American industry-based academic program with an accreditation credential that focuses on diesel equipment/diesel technology. AEDF's template for accreditation is a community-based, school-to-work plan, where local dealers, colleges and industry stakeholders work together as a task force to meet mutual needs. When a school earns their accreditation, they have proven that they are committed to upholding industry standards by providing top-tier education to students. This distinction helps accredited college programs to stand out from other diesel technician programs.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**FOR SCHOOLS:** 

**FOR STUDENTS:** 

**FOR DEALERS:** 

**FACILITATES BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS:**  

Through accredited college programs and the accreditation process, relationships are built between schools, dealers and the Foundation. This relationship allows for a mutually beneficial program to be created that benefits local dealers and qualifies students to become AEDF Certified Technicians upon completion.

**ENSURES PROGRAMS MEET INDUSTRY STANDARDS:**   

To become an accredited college program, school programs must comply with AEDF's Equipment Technology standards. These standards are recognized through the industry and certify the program is legitimate, allowing students to be trained to become top-tier technicians, while dealers benefit from the opportunity to hire qualified technicians.

**DEALER PARTICIPATION:**  

To become an accredited program, schools must obtain the necessary equipment for students to utilize during training. This is often donated by local dealerships that are involved with the accreditation process. Through this donation, schools can receive the required equipment, while local dealers ensure students become familiar with the equipment that is already utilized at their dealership.

**TOP-TIER EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS CREATES QUALIFIED ENTRY-LEVEL TECHNICIANS:**  

Upon completing an accredited college program, students will receive the Certified AEDF Technician's title if they score 70% or higher on their technical test. This certification demonstrates the expertise of a technician's skill-set and raises the bar for a dealership.

**CUSTOMER SATISFACTION:** 

Customers of dealerships recognize an AEDF Certified Technician's hard-earned title and feel assured that their equipment is receiving unmatched service quality. One AEDF Certified Technician can bring in \$250,000 to the dealership.

# SCHOOL ACCREDITATION MODEL

## ACCREDITATION PHASES

1

### KICKOFF

Helps form local relationships where equipment dealers can collectively support local diesel/equipment technical programs to recruit students, get them enrolled in the programs, and place them upon graduation.

2

### GAP ANALYSIS

Assures that programs are based on comprehensive national equipment diesel standards that are fully aligned with industry needs.

3

### GATHERING EQUIPMENT

AED Foundation Accreditation may help obtain funding from the federal Perkins Act, state and/or other types of funding. Requirements continue to move toward "linkages" that better connect technical programs and curricula with industry-defined needs and technical standards.

4

### DEVELOP CURRICULUM

The AEDF Standards specify what the industry expects students to know upon graduation, providing program development.

5

### FINAL EVALUATION

An on-site visit from an Evaluation Team Leader (ETL). A school program is accredited based on the written recommendation of the ETLs, that the school meets AEDF standards.

## WHAT ARE THE SIX CORE COMPETENCIES STUDENTS LEARN?

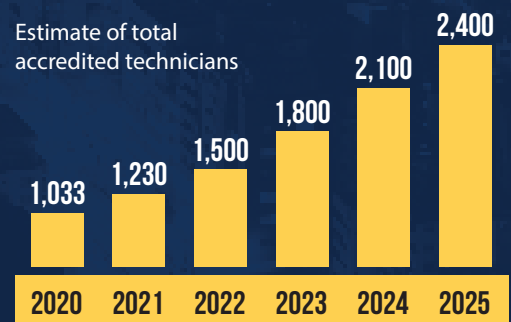
Upon completion of an accredited college program and passing with a 70% or higher on the final technical test, students will be recognized as Certified AEDF Technicians and have completed extensive training in the following areas:

- Safety/Administrative
- Electrical/Electronics
- Hydraulics/Hydrostatics
- Power Trains
- Diesel Engines & Fuel Systems
- A/C & Heating

## PIPELINE FOR SUCCESS

AED Foundation accredited and recognized school programs create a pipeline of qualified technicians for the construction equipment industry. In fact, the Foundation has committed to 10,000 graduates as part of its Vision 2025 plan.

Estimate of total accredited technicians



## HOW ACCREDITED PROGRAMS BENEFIT THE EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION INDUSTRY:

- Accredited programs produce shop-ready technicians with a well-rounded education
- Students are trained in AEDF's six core competencies
- Accredited programs are required to administer the AED Foundation Certified Technician Tests. This assessment test allows the students to earn the only industry-recognized, non-OEM-specific certification before they graduate.
- The more colleges AEDF accredits, the more facilities available to produce qualified technicians for dealerships across North America.

To learn more about The AED Foundation's Accredited College Programs, visit [aedfoundation.org](https://aedfoundation.org) or contact the Foundation's Vice President of Education and Programming, Liz McCabe at [lmccabe@aednet.org](mailto:lmccabe@aednet.org).