

CAREER OF THE WEEK: Gas Service Technician

What does a gas service technician do?

A gas service technician undertakes a variety of tasks, playing a crucial role in ensuring the safe and efficient operation of gas systems. They install various gas appliances such as boilers, water heaters, cookers, and fires, in residential, commercial, and industrial settings; making sure that they are correctly connected to the gas supply and comply with safety standards. As well as installing gas appliances, gas service technicians perform routine maintenance and repairs, including cleaning, inspecting, and replacing components where necessary, along with responding to emergency repairs.



Other tasks include carrying out gas safety checks to identify any issues, including checking for gas leaks, checking ventilation and levels of carbon monoxide emissions. They will carry out gas system testing, checking the pressure and flow of gas within systems and undertaking gas tightness tests that can detect and repair leaks. Boiler servicing is an important task for a gas service technician as this can help to identify issues that may cause breakdowns or monoxide leaks; servicing enables the boiler to be cleaned and ensures that it is running safely.

What can I expect to earn as a gas service technician?

Starting salaries are usually between £18,000 and £25,000 per annum, rising to between £25,000 and £40,000 with experience. Self-employed gas service technicians, or those with specialist training and skills, can earn significantly higher.

What subjects should I study to become a gas service technician?

Subjects which could be beneficial include, maths, English, science, engineering, design and technology, product design, and ICT. After completing your school education, you could enrol on a specific course that will provide you with the specialised knowledge and practical skills required to become a gas service technician. For a level 2 course you will generally need 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, and 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, for a level 3 course.

How can I start my career as a gas service technician?

One of the most common routes into gas servicing work is through an apprenticeship. You could complete one with a Gas Safe registered company and a training provider. An apprenticeship would enable you to combine on-the-job training with lessons in class where you will learn about gas safety, regulations, installations, and the repair and maintenance of gas appliances. Another option is to complete a college course, such as the level 2 or 3 diploma in plumbing and heating, and then apply for a trainee gas service technician position. If you have related experience, you may be able to have it assessed and accredited to get a certificate of competency. To qualify and work as a gas service technician, you will need to complete a recognised industry qualification and work for a Gas Safe registered company.

When you have trained as a gas service technician, it is important to stay updated on any changes or advancements, you can do this by taking further courses that will help you to develop and stay current with any changes to regulations.

Useful websites to find out more about a career as a gas service technician:

Energy & Utilities Jobs <https://www.energyutilitiesjobs.co.uk/gas/>

Gas Safe Register <https://www.gassaferegister.co.uk/about-us/what-is-gas-safe-register/>

National Careers Service <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/gas-service-technician>



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