

AIR CONDITIONING TECHNOLOGY, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE



Information

The Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVAC/R) field is teeming with exciting opportunities and the potential for significant career growth. As an essential component of modern infrastructure, HVAC/R systems are crucial for maintaining comfortable living and working environments worldwide. Here's why a career in this industry could be your ideal choice:

Why Choose a Career in HVAC/R?

- **High Demand and Job Security:** HVAC/R technicians are consistently in demand due to the necessity of climate control systems in homes, businesses, hospitals, and more. This demand ensures long-term job security and stability.
- **Diverse Work Environments:** Technicians have the opportunity to work in a variety of settings, from residential homes to large commercial facilities like office buildings and hospitals, making the work dynamic and engaging.
- **Hands-On and Independent Work:** Experience the satisfaction of solving complex problems and working with your hands. HVAC/R careers involve diagnosing issues, troubleshooting, and repairing systems either independently or within small teams.

Career Growth and Specialization Opportunities

- **Specialization Options:** The HVAC/R field offers numerous paths for specialization, such as residential HVAC, commercial refrigeration, energy management, or green technologies like solar-powered systems. This allows you to tailor your career to your interests.
- **Pathways to Advancement:** Begin as an entry-level technician and progress to senior roles like project manager or service manager. With experience, you might even start your own business.
- **Continued Learning:** The industry encourages ongoing education with certifications that enhance skills and earning potential. Certifications are highly valued across the industry and can significantly boost your career.

Future-Proof Your Career

- **Technological Advancements:** Stay at the forefront of innovation with smart thermostats, IoT integration, and advanced diagnostic tools transforming the industry. Keeping up with these advancements ensures a competitive edge.

- **Green Energy Opportunities:** As the world shifts towards sustainability, expertise in green HVAC/R systems becomes increasingly valuable. This aligns with global environmental goals and offers a fulfilling career path.

Embark on an exciting journey in the HVAC/R industry where every day presents new challenges and opportunities for growth. Whether you're passionate about technology, sustainability, or hands-on problem-solving, this field has something to offer everyone.

Associate of Applied Science

The College designed the Air Conditioning Technology program to provide students with a study of electrical and mechanical knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for employment in today's residential and light commercial Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) careers. These skills help prepare students for employment as installers, salespersons, and technicians in residential and light commercial air conditioning, refrigeration, and heating. A graduate of this program will have a good foundational knowledge in the principles of air conditioning, heating, and refrigeration, with main emphasis on installation, troubleshooting, and customer service. Related topics of energy conservation, air systems design and analysis, advanced HVACR controls, and air conditioning codes are thoroughly covered. While this degree provides the student with 45 credit hours of HVACR specific courses, it also provides the student with 15 credit hours of general education courses should the student look to pursue a higher degree in the future.

Students who wish to pursue a bachelor's degree after graduation from San Jacinto College may want to consider programs at Lamar University. Lamar will accept credit for students with an AAS in Air Conditioning Technology. Interested students may find more information on the Lamar transfer website (<https://www.thinklamar.com/transfer-students.html>).