

Job Opportunities in Art, Skilled Trades & Services using combinations of skillful hands, mechanical aptitude, technical skills and knowledge

August 2024 ----The following are a few of the many possible opportunities in art, skilled services and trades, manufacturing & maintenance as well as some helpful resources:

Opportunities in Art:

- 3D Print Lab Technician** – look to science, industry, and health sector, for employers
- Antiquing Specialist/ Metal Patina Artist** – or any similar craft that focuses on preserving old
- Audio-Visual Equipment Technician** – corporate, educational, entertainment employers
- Closet Designer** – usually part-time and compensation may depend on sales ability
- Custom Vehicle Detailer, Painter or Fabricator** – high end auto sellers, antique car owners
- Custom Cabinet Maker** - high end builders or home entertainment centers provide employment
- Engraver or Printer** – try jewelers, places that sell memorial products, places that print
- Exhibit Builder and/or Installer** – connect with museums, architects, event planners
- Fashion Accessory Creator** – target apparel makers & specialty manufacturers
- Floral Designer** – connect with event planners, caterers, & mortuaries as well as retail stores
- House Painter or Decorator** – connect with builders, real estate agents & property managers
- Jewelry Repair and Re-designer** – add these skills to your jewelry making
- Musical Instrument Repairer** – partner with stores that sell instruments or school districts
- Pastry Cook or Chef** – community colleges offer training
- Pottery or Clay Mold Maker** – think about industrial needs for your craft
- Production Artist** – responsible for production and execution of printed materials & digital media
- Props Fabricator** – work with metal wood, molding etc.; apply at amusement parks & theatres
- Sign Maker/Installer** – can specialize in neon, vinyl, metal, fabrics, wood etc.
- Theatre Technician** – responsible for sound, lighting and rigging systems during live events
- Textile/Fabric Seamstress** – look for apparel companies and niche local manufacturers
- Tile Layer or Finisher** – check out the apprenticeship program or find a mentor

Upholsterer – consider leather and the auto upholstery as well as furniture

Visual Artist – design artwork using a variety of mediums: watercolor, acrylic, digital, gouache.

Wallpaper or Seasonal Light Installer – consider all ways of brightening inside & outside walls

Window Blinds and/or Drapery Installer – Apply at places that sell window blinds or drapes

Opportunities in Skilled Services & Trades:

Appliance Repair Technician – **Sears** is always looking for entry level technicians. They prefer some schooling but are willing to train. Go to www.jobs.sears.com to learn about Service Tech Appliance Repair openings at local Sears stores. Udemy has an online course.

Auto Mechanic – Dealerships and independent auto shops are always looking for trained mechanics. Chains such as **Pep Boys** www.pepboys.com/career hire entry level general service techs as well as mechanics, service advisers and area diagnostic specialists. Also try **Midas**. [Jobs at Midas](https://midas.com/careers) <https://midas.com/careers> for jobs with its franchisees as auto technician and experienced automotive technician

Auto Body or Bicycle Repair/Installer Specialist - Apply at local body shops or bicycle shops.

Business Machine Service Tech – Needs some electronics background. Try places such as **Sharp Business Systems** <https://business.sharp.usa.com/careers> for field service representative positions. Field Representative Print Support jobs at **Ricoh** are at <https://careers.ricoh-usa.com>

Car Electronics or other Electronics Installer – go to <https://jobs.bestbuy.com> and select Geek Squad and zip code to find Car Electronics Installer or Geek Squad Agent (Retail Store)

Carpet Cleaning Technician – Mechanical skills are needed in addition to the ability to lift and clean. One local employer is **Stanley Steemer** at www.stanleysteemer.com

Diesel Mechanic – Try bus transit agencies such as **AC Transit** [AC Transit Career Opportunities \(governmentjobs.com\)](http://AC Transit Career Opportunities (governmentjobs.com)) and truck driving companies such as **Penske** <https://penske.jobs>

Door Installer – R and S Erection www.rsdoor.com is an example of a local Concord company that hires technicians for commercial and residential installation, maintenance & repair.

Electrician – Look for apprentice electrician openings where the employer will facilitate your joining a union. Becoming a union electrician starts with an apprenticeship. Call (925) 372-7083 in Martinez for information. There are also non-union electricians.

HVAC Installers and Service Technicians are always in demand. Training from technical schools, local community colleges or some related experience is usually necessary. There are opportunities for repair technicians at places such as www.servicechampions.net Installation techs are sometimes hired by residential home builders.

Locksmith – Many locksmith shops are small and independently owned. Alarm installation companies may also offer locksmith services. School districts also hire locksmiths.

Lube and Oil Technician – Jiffy Lube is a good place to apply. Auto dealerships are another possibility.

Pool and Spa Servicer – Plumbing and electrical skills are helpful. Look under “**Spas and Hot Tubs** – Service and Repair” as well as “**Swimming Pool Services and Repair**”. An example of a local employer who has a specialty niche repairing a variety of leaks is American Leak Detection. <https://www.americanleakdetection.com/careers>

Printing Machine Operator – Try bindery shops, publishing companies, copy services such as **FedEx Office** ([FedEx Careers](https://www.careers.fedex.com)) (<https://www.careers.fedex.com>) for “retail customer service associates” whose tasks include setting up and operating printing, binding and other equipment.

Rental Equipment Repair Mechanic - Herc Rentals <https://careers.hercrentals.com> hires mechanics experienced with construction and industrial equipment such as engines, pumps, hoses, compressors, electric motors & tools. Also try **United Rentals** www.unitedrentals.com which hires diesel mechanics, field service techs, and equipment associates.

Security System Installer – Try **Bay Alarm** <https://www.bayalarm.com/careers> **ADT** <https://jobs.adt.com> and **Reed Brothers Security** www.reedbrotherssecurity.com which also hires dispatchers, estimators and electronic techs to program access control and CCTV systems.

Solar Energy Installer/Technician – Look under “Solar” to find potential employers.

Sound Engineering Technician – Los Medanos College in Pittsburg has a recording arts technical program – jobs may be freelance or contract.

Stationary Engineer – The State of California hires Stationary Engineers to operate maintain and repair boiler, heating, air conditioning, ventilating, lighting, power, water, water treatment and other mechanical systems. Go to www.calcareers.ca.gov for current openings. Hospitals and hotels are examples of private employers who also hire stationary or utility engineers.

Tire Technician – Try tire dealers such as **Big O Tires, Wheel Works, America's Tire Company** (www.americastire.com) and auto centers such as **Sears**.

Utilities Worker – PG&E hires Utility Workers and Meter Readers. Check their website www.pge.com/careers for current openings...California Water Service Company www.calwater.com hires electro mechanical technicians and water system maintenance workers in nearby areas. . Check www.calopps.org and www.governmentjobs.com under “utilities”

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator – Check the Central Sanitary District website www.centralsan.org and other local sanitary districts.

Water Treatment Plant Operator –Check East Bay Municipal Water District www.ebmud.com or Contra Costa Water District www.ccwater.com for jobs such as Treatment Plant Operator Trainee. The **State of California Department of Water Resources** offers a hydroelectric plant electrician apprenticeship. <https://water.ca.gov/about/careers/apprenticeship-program>

Welder They work in a wide range of industries from manufacturing to aerospace to oil drilling, construction, or maritime

Window and Window Screen Installer – Apply at places that sell windows. Also, places such as Home Depot and Loews may offer independent contractor opportunities

Opportunities in Manufacturing and Maintenance:

Maintenance Mechanics need experience in predictive and preventive maintenance as well as repairing and rebuilding, rotating equipment, including pumps, fans, blowers, turbines and generators. Try refineries, manufacturers, food processors and hotels.

Maintenance Technician is a title used by many employers such as apartment complexes, shopping centers, public facilities such as science centers, and property management companies such as www.essexpropertytrust.com or www.avalonbay.com.

Manufacturing Technician – look for local manufacturers. Check www.icangotocollege.com for classes in advanced manufacturing in California community colleges.

Mechanical Engineering Technician – helps build, test and manufacture items like engines, generators and turbines. Look for biomedical equipment or surgical device manufacturers, autonomous auto developers, etc.

Precision Electronics Assembler – look for companies that assemble products such as cables, control systems, medical products – sometimes in a cleanroom environment. Check indeed.com

USEFUL WEBSITES:

www.craigslist.org – Look under “skilled trade/craft” or “manufacturing” or “tv/film/video”

www.indeed.com – www.indeed.com – Search under various job titles including “mechanical artist”, “skilled trades” “technician” “installation” or “maintenance and repair” and zip code

www.calapprenticeship.org – links to information on 45 apprenticeships

www.icangotocollege.com/certificates-and-degrees - low cost programs in 60 categories

www.reeldirectory.com – listing of companies & services in Bay Area film community – not jobs

www.printaccess.com – lists printing, graphics, design and marketing companies by zip code

www.ihirecommercialart.com – Must register to use

STAFFING AGENCIES TO TRY:

Aerotek www.aerotek.com (510) 214-1600 technicians, manufacturing, mechanics, drivers, cooks, carpenters, maintenance electricians, quality assurance, warehouse ---office in Emeryville

Adecco www.adecco.com (925) 468-1156 and (510) 669-8606 - . manufacturing technician, maintenance mechanic, machinist, assembler, process technician and other temp positions

Labor Finders www.laborfinders.com (510) 678-3461- staff for construction, manufacturing, light industrial

Nelson Connects www.nelsonconnects.com (925) 933-0505 - various positions in manufacturing and logistics as well as other fields

Onward Search www.onwardsearch.com – limited creative postings; corporate in Connecticut

Workers.com Industrial Employment Staffing Agency||WORKERS.COM (925) 680-4422

Express Pros [Jobs -Express Employment Professionals \(expresspros.com\)](http://Jobs -Express Employment Professionals (expresspros.com)) (925) 676-6600; (510) 662-5100 varied jobs including driver, maintenance, production associate

Westvalley.com www.westvalley.com (408) 735-1420 search under “technician”