

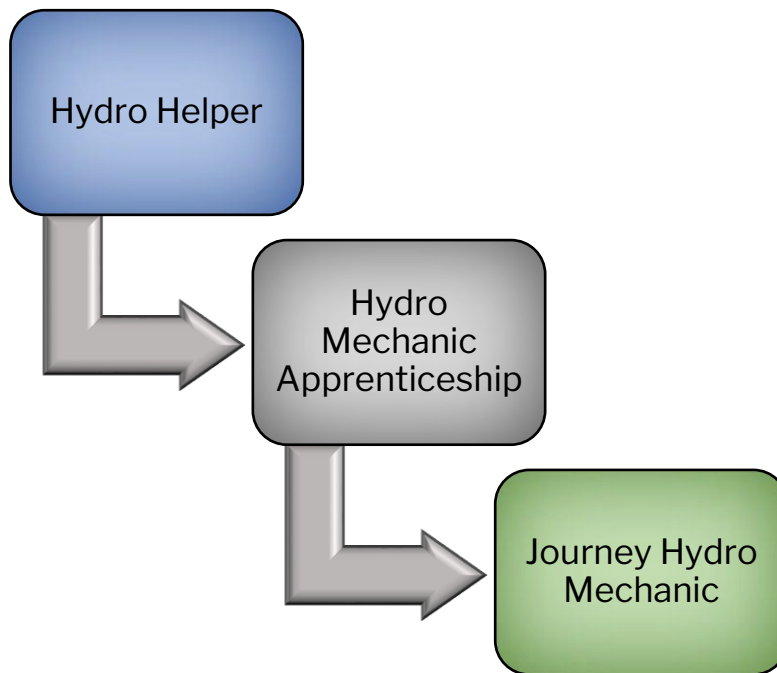
Hydroelectric Mechanic

Also known as: Hydro Plant Technician, Plant Mechanic, Hydroelectric Operations and Maintenance Technician, Power Plant Technician, Power Plant Mechanic

Hydroelectric Plant Technicians are critical in monitoring and controlling the activities associated with hydropower generation. They operate a wide variety of plant equipment and are responsible for the maintenance of that equipment, ensuring optimal performance. Many people begin this career path as a Hydro Helper, assisting apprentices and journeymen as they begin to learn about the job.

Pay Scale	Education	Projected Opportunities
\$104,110 in 2021 in WA \$80,850 in 2021 in U.S.	High School Diploma, Apprenticeship	30 through 2030 in WA 2,100 through 2031 in U.S.

Career Path



(The career path to becoming a hydroelectric mechanic often begins with the entry level position of hydro helper, before moving into a hydro mechanic apprenticeship, and becoming a journeyman hydro mechanic.)

Training & Requirements

Training	Required Skills	Responsibilities
<p>Hydro Mechanics need a high school diploma and strong math skills prior to starting an apprenticeship. The apprenticeship is 6,000-8,000 hours and results in becoming a journey-level hydro mechanic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machine shop knowledge- operation of lathes, grinders, drill press, etc. • Proper use of hoisting equipment • Operation and maintenance of heavy equipment • Able to read a blue print or layout • Welding • Basic computer usage (email and Microsoft Office) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and address malfunctions of hydroelectric plant operational equipment such as generators, transformers, and turbines • Operate energy production equipment • Inspect and diagnose equipment malfunctions • Start, adjust, or stop generating units or auxiliary equipment

Additional Information:	Related Careers:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • O*NET Occupational Data • College Programs • Apprenticeships • Printable PDF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrician • Hydroelectric Production Manager • Instrument & Control Technician • Substation Electrician