Automotive Technician Job Shadowing

## Student Guide

Job shadowing is an observation-only experience where you spend a few hours at an automotive dealership to see what working in the service department is really like. You will   
not be working on vehicles. Instead, you’ll watch professionals do their jobs, ask questions,  
and evaluate this career path.

## Why Job Shadowing is Helpful

Job shadowing helps you:

* Understand what automotive service work actually involves
* See modern tools, technology, and vehicles
* Learn about career paths in the automotive industry
* Decide if this type of work is a good fit for you

It’s okay if you decide this career is *not* for you. That’s still a successful visit.

## What You Will Do

During your visit, you may:

* Observe service technicians, advisors, and parts staff
* Watch vehicle inspections, maintenance, and repairs
* Learn how a dealership service department operates
* Ask appropriate questions at the right times

## What You Will NOT Do

For safety and liability reasons, you may **not**:

* Work on vehicles or use tools
* Touch equipment or vehicles
* Enter vehicles that are on lifts
* Walk around the shop on your own
* Record video or take photos without permission

This is strictly an **observation experience**.

## Safety Comes First

Automotive shops can be dangerous if safety rules aren’t followed. You are expected to:

* Stay with your assigned host at all times
* Follow all instructions immediately
* Wear any required safety gear (such as safety glasses)
* Remain alert and aware of your surroundings

If safety rules are not followed, the visit will end.

## What to Wear & Bring

Please wear:

* Closed-toe shoes (required)
* Comfortable, appropriate clothing

Avoid:

* Loose clothing
* Jewelry

You may bring:

* A notebook
* Questions you’d like to ask

## How to Act Professionally

While you are visiting, you are representing yourself and your school.

Please:

* Be respectful and attentive
* Ask questions politely and at appropriate times
* Put your phone away unless instructed otherwise
* Follow directions from dealership staff

## Questions You Might Want to Ask

* What does a typical day look like for a technician?
* What training or schooling is required?
* What are the hardest and most rewarding parts of the job?
* What skills matter most for success?
* What career paths are available in this field?

## After the Visit

At the end of your job shadow, you may:

* Talk about next steps (internships, apprenticeships, school programs)
* Decide whether you want to explore this career further

There is no pressure to commit to anything.

## Reminder

Job shadowing is about learning and exploration.

Be curious, be respectful, and be honest with yourself about what you observe. Whether you pursue this career or not, the experience will help you make better decisions about your future.

**Disclaimer:** *These materials have been prepared for informational purposes only. Nothing in the materials is intended to constitute legal advice. Consumers should contact their attorney to obtain advice with respect to any particular legal matter. The presentation of this information is not intended to encourage concerted action among competitors or any other action on the part of dealers that would in any manner fix or stabilize the price or any element of the price of any good or service.*