



# STEM Careers

## Hazardous Materials Technician

**Job Description:** Identify, remove, pack, transport, or dispose of hazardous materials. Specialized training and certification in handling or a confined entry permit are required.

### What does a Hazardous Materials Technician do?

- Build containment areas prior to beginning decontamination work
- Remove asbestos or lead from surfaces, using tools such as scrapers, vacuums, or high-pressure sprayers
- Identify hazardous materials to be removed, using monitoring devices
- Prepare hazardous material for removal and storage
- Remove or limit contamination following emergencies involving hazardous substances
- Process e-waste, such as computer components containing lead or mercury
- Apply biomediation techniques to hazardous waste to allow naturally occurring bacteria to break down toxic substances

### Your Interests:

- Do you like working with tools?
- Are you interested in keeping the environment clean?
- Do you want to keep workplaces and/or homes safe?

### Outlook:

Average Salary - \$22.26 hourly, \$46,300 annually  
Projected Job Openings - 5,800 in the next 10 years

### Education/Program of Study:

- Most entry level positions have requirements ranging from an associate's degree, to vocational school, on-the-job-training, and/or certification.
- Degree paths include chemistry and other related fields.