

# Wind Turbine Technician

Score: 4 | Excellent

Given the physical risk to workers, the complexity of the tools, and the variety of situations encountered during training and on the job, wind turbine technicians present an excellent use case of VR's potential to improve the efficacy of training ahead of on-the-job training through the simulation of various mechanical repairs and unsafe situations, among other things.



## WIND TURBINE TECHNICIAN

# Overview

Wind turbine technicians must have a high school diploma, as well as safety and climbing certifications. Many also complete a two-year associate's degree in wind energy technology or a related field and 12 months of on-the-job training from their employer. The skills needed for this occupation include electrical and mechanical knowledge, diagnostics, safety and awareness, and troubleshooting, most of which require strong decision-making skills.

## WIND TURBINE TECHNICIAN

# JFF VR Training Framework Score

High risk (2)

- ***Risk to learner (1):*** Given the climbing required to scale a wind turbine and the machinery used, wind turbine technicians risk significant physical injury.
- ***Risk to customer or stakeholders (1):*** If wind turbine technicians do not have the appropriate safety skills, their work poses a threat to their colleagues.

## WIND TURBINE TECHNICIAN

# Framework Score Cont.:

High complexity (2)

- ***Complex tools (1):*** Wind turbine technicians use specialized tools, such as hydraulic or pneumatic power tools.
- ***Complex interactions (0):*** While wind turbine technicians do engage with people on the job, this does not account for a significant portion of their work.
- ***Complex situations (1):*** Wind turbine technicians must learn to respond to complex situations, including changes in their environment and to the structural integrity of the turbine. This is especially true in offshore settings.

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# Examples

VR has been used [in Massachusetts to train wind turbine technicians](#), helping meet critical staffing needs in the energy sector.



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