MY TRADE TALENT

SALARY GUIDE

2026 Elevator Maintenance Salary Guide

National wage benchmarks for the 10 most-recruited elevator maintenance roles, sourced from BLS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics and O*NET OnLine — with every proxy classification, and every gap in the data, labeled honestly.

Data: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, most recent OEWS release

How to read this guide.

Every wage figure below is sourced from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics via O*NET OnLine and BLS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), matched to the closest BLS occupational classification for each role. These are national figures, not internal placement data, and not a substitute for a live local wage check.

> Three of the ten elevator maintenance roles we recruit for don't have a sourced wage figure at all — no state-level breakdown exists in our data, and no growth/outlook percentage is published for this occupation in our source. Where that's the case, we say so directly below. We don't fabricate a number where the data doesn't exist.

NATIONAL WAGE BENCHMARKS

By role, BLS/O*NET-sourced.

ROLE	MEDIAN ANNUAL	MEDIAN HOURLY
Elevator Mechanic / Installer, Service Tech, Maintenance Tech, Escalator Tech, Modernization Tech*	$109,910	$52.84
Elevator Project Manager**	~$106,980	—
QEI-Certified Inspector***	~$74,690	—
Elevator Service Dispatcher / Coordinator	No wage figure sourced — see below	
Elevator Estimator	No wage figure sourced — see below	
Elevator Controls / Electronics Technician	No wage figure sourced — see below	

*All five roles share BLS SOC 47-4021 (Elevator and Escalator Installers and Repairers) — the same occupational code, since the trade doesn't track them separately. Figure is the most current BLS-sourced median via O*NET OnLine, up from a median of $106,580 in the prior BLS May 2024 release; that May 2024 data also shows the spread: bottom 10% of earners at roughly $54,720/year, top 10% at $149,250 or more.

**Proxy: BLS "Construction Managers" (SOC 11-9021) — nearest fit for bid-to-build oversight on modernization and new-installation contracts.

***Proxy: BLS "Construction and Building Inspectors" (SOC 47-4011) — the nearest BLS category to a QEI-credentialed inspector. QEI status itself is governed by the ASME QEI-1 standard, not a distinct BLS occupation, and QEI-credentialed individuals doing dedicated inspection work often exceed this baseline.

ROLES WITHOUT A SOURCED WAGE FIGURE

Three roles, named honestly rather than filled with a guess.

Elevator Service Dispatcher / Coordinator — nearest BLS fit is "Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance" (SOC 43-5032). We don't have a verified wage figure for this classification in our source data, so we're not putting a number here.

Elevator Estimator — nearest BLS fit is "Cost Estimators" (SOC 13-1051). Same situation: no verified figure in our source, so no number appears here.

Elevator Controls / Electronics Technician — nearest BLS fit is "Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Commercial and Industrial Equipment" (SOC 49-2094) — itself a proxy, since there's no dedicated BLS code for elevator controls specifically. No verified wage figure in our source data.

If you need current benchmarks for these three roles specifically, ask us directly — we'd rather point you to a verified source than print a placeholder number in a guide meant to be trusted.

STATE & REGIONAL VARIATION

We don't have a state-level breakdown for this trade — and we're not going to invent one.

Unlike some of the larger commercial trades, our source data for elevator maintenance doesn't include a state-by-state wage breakdown. Rather than approximate one, we're saying so directly: if you need market-specific numbers for a specific state or metro, treat the national figures above as a starting point, and verify locally before quoting a number to a client or a candidate.

See our metro service-area pages at mytradetalent.com/service-areas for market-specific hiring context in the regions we actively recruit.

RELATED TRADES CONTEXT

How the proxy classifications compare to each other.

Because three of the ten roles borrow BLS classifications from adjacent occupations, it's worth seeing how those baselines compare directly. Construction Managers (the Elevator Project Manager proxy) carry a national median around $106,980 a year — close to the elevator mechanic cluster itself. Construction and Building Inspectors (the QEI proxy) carry a lower baseline, around $74,690 a year, though the hub-page disclosure holds here too: QEI-credentialed individuals doing dedicated inspection work often exceed that baseline in practice.

> Read all three proxy figures as a floor, not a ceiling — a licensed mechanic, a credentialed inspector, or an experienced elevator PM with a strong track record in this specific trade routinely commands more than the broad occupational median.

TOTAL COMPENSATION

Base wage is the start of the conversation, not the end of it.

Especially for field mechanics and technicians, total compensation typically includes more than the base hourly or annual figure captured in BLS wage data:

- **On-call and callback pay** — structured separately from base pay in most shops, and a major factor in whether a mechanic stays or leaves.
- **Certification and license renewal costs** — QEI recertification and license renewal fees, sometimes employer-covered as a retention lever.
- **Vehicle and tool allowances** — vary widely by employer and worth confirming explicitly.
- **Route/territory structure** — predictable routes carry real value to technicians even when the base rate is comparable to a less predictable competitor's offer.

When benchmarking an offer against this guide's medians, weigh the full package, not just the base figure.

USING THIS GUIDE

Benchmark honestly — including against yourself.

If you're consistently losing candidates at the offer stage, compare your actual offer — base plus the total-compensation factors above — against the closest classification's median, not a vague "elevator trade" number. A mechanic offer benchmarked against a generic industry figure will look competitive right up until the candidate you want turns out to be QEI-eligible, or already has years of modernization-specific experience worth more than the baseline.

If you're not sure where a specific role should land in your market, that's exactly the kind of question a specialized recruiting partner should be able to answer with real data — not a guess.

TIME TO FILL

Specialty and inspection roles take longer to fill than general maintenance searches.

We don't have a single published time-to-fill figure for elevator maintenance roles specifically — that data isn't part of the BLS releases we're drawing from here. But the pattern holds directionally, and it's sharper in this trade than most: general maintenance-technician searches move faster than searches for QEI-credentialed inspectors or modernization specialists, simply because the qualified, licensed pool is this small at every step up.

The practical implication is the one that runs through this whole guide: the roles that take longest to fill reactively are exactly the roles a standing, pre-verified pipeline helps most.

COMPARABLE TRADES

How the elevator mechanic cluster compares to its own proxy roles.

ROLE / CLASSIFICATION	NATIONAL MEDIAN (PER SOURCE ABOVE)
Elevator and Escalator Installers and Repairers (SOC 47-4021)	$109,910
Construction Managers (SOC 11-9021) — Elevator PM proxy	~$106,980
Construction and Building Inspectors (SOC 47-4011) — QEI proxy	~$74,690

Figures as cited earlier in this guide, gathered here for side-by-side comparison. Notably, the elevator mechanic cluster's own median sits above both of its adjacent proxy classifications — one of the higher-paid trades we recruit for across all ten verticals.

LICENSING AS A COMPENSATION FACTOR

A license and a QEI credential aren't line items — they change the whole conversation.

Because a state elevator mechanic license and a QEI credential are legally required to perform this work in most jurisdictions, they function differently than a "nice to have" certification in other trades. A candidate without an active, verifiable license or credential isn't a discount hire — they're not eligible for the role at all in most markets. Compensation conversations in this trade should start from "is this person legally able to do the work," not from base-wage comparison alone.

METRO CONTEXT

National medians are a floor, not a forecast, for any specific market.

Every figure in this guide is a national median or the nearest available proxy. Local wages move with cost of living, building stock age (older buildings mean more modernization demand), and how tight the local licensed labor supply is. Because we don't have a verified state-level breakdown for this trade, treat local variation as real but unquantified in this guide — confirm locally rather than assuming the national figure applies directly to your market.

See our metro service-area pages at mytradetalent.com/service-areas for market-specific context in the regions we actively recruit.

MY TRADE TALENT

Every hire from zero is a *tax* on your team.

My Trade Talent maintains a live, credential-verified pipeline of trades talent on a flat monthly retainer — so open seats fill with qualified people, not guesses.

Schedule a Discovery Call

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