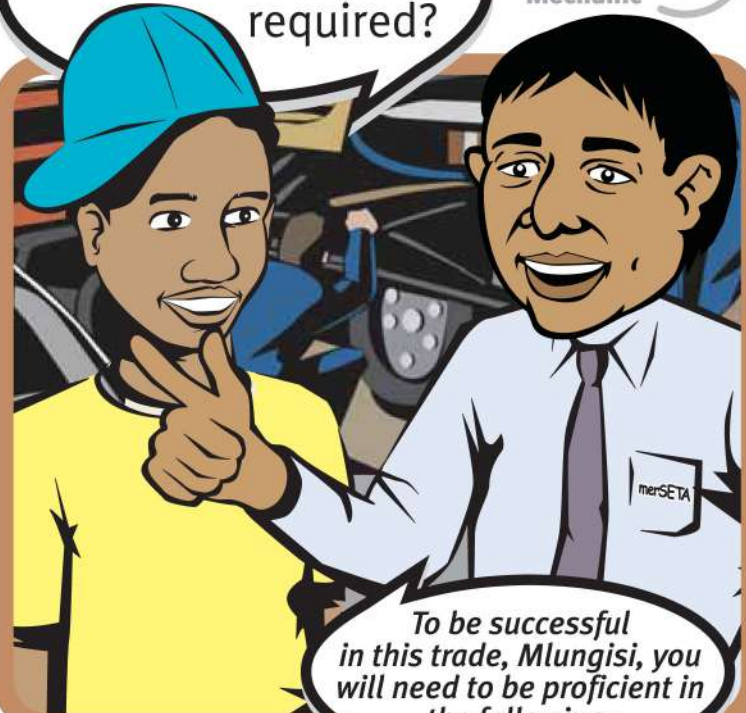


2

What skills and abilities are required?

Guide to being a Diesel Mechanic



To be successful in this trade, Mlungisi, you will need to be proficient in the following:

- Ability to diagnose problems
- To be skilled in areas such as air conditioning system repair and installation, electrical system repair, fuel system repair and installation and computer skills
- To be able to continuously adapt to new technology
- To be able to transfer skills to younger mechanics
- To be able to communicate with team members

Once you have obtained a qualification and the relevant skills in this trade, you have CHOICES!

You can either find employment.  
**OR**  
Start your own business.

For more information, please contact the merSETA Call Centre on **086 163 7738**

For additional Support, you may also visit: **NYDA** [www.nyda.gov.za](http://www.nyda.gov.za)



NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

**HEAD OFFICE**

The Atrium, 95 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Cnr Rustenburg Road  
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**CONTACTS**

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merSETA  
MANUFACTURING, ENGINEERING  
AND RELATED SERVICES SETA

Guide to being a Diesel Mechanic



Step by Step guide to being a Diesel Mechanic

An essential guide showing learners how to prepare for their chosen careers

LEADERS IN CLOSING THE SKILLS GAP

1

What do Diesel Mechanics do, Mr. Naidoo?

Guide to being a Diesel Mechanic



Diesel Mechanics maintain, test and repair diesel motors and the mechanical parts of trucks, buses and other heavy vehicles such as transmissions, suspension, steering and brakes

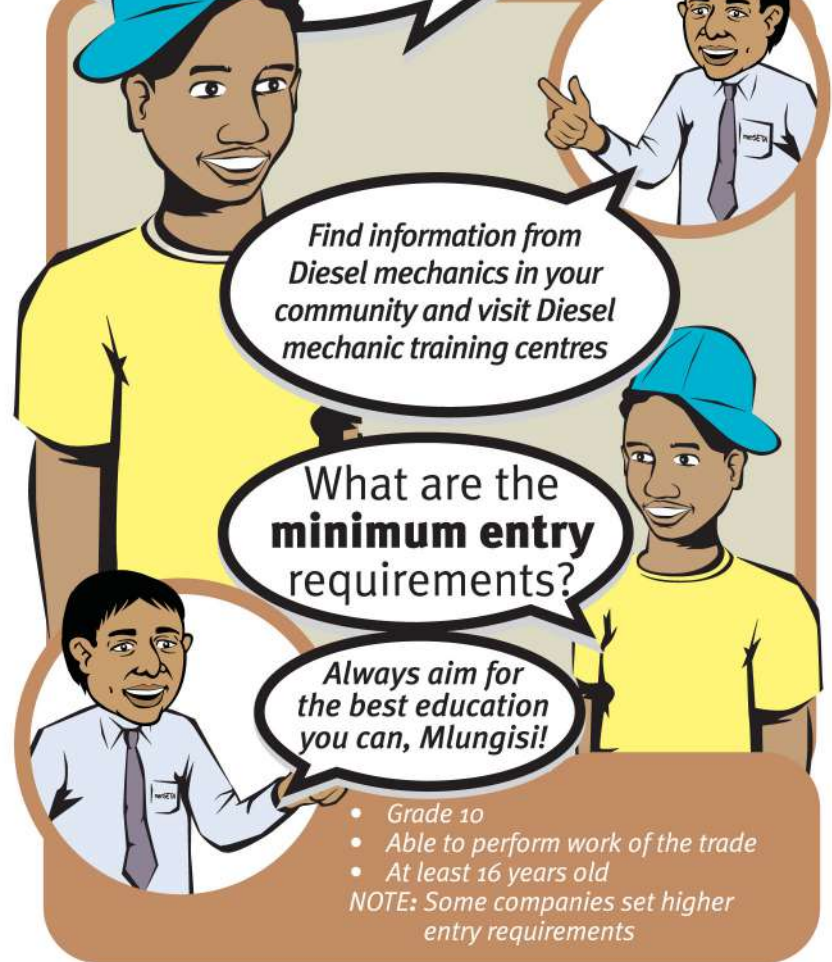


3 What will be my duties and tasks when I qualify, Mr. Naidoo?



- As a Diesel mechanic you will perform the following duties:
- Diagnose, overhaul, repair, tune, maintain and test diesel and petrol/gas-powered vehicles, including trucks, buses, bulldozers and other earthmoving equipment, tractors, stationary engines (e.g. generators, pumps, compressors and drilling rigs) and agricultural machinery
  - Detect mechanical and electrical faults by using instruments that check charging and starting circuitry, batteries, ignition and ignition timing, fuel injection systems and speed control, cylinder compression, engine condition, braking efficiency, and wheel balance and alignment
  - Repair and maintain the hydraulic components of diesel and petrol/gas engines that are used to power attachments such as hoists, booms, scrapers, buckets and augers
  - Use oxy, electric, TIG and MIG welding, hand fitting or machining processes to replace or repair faulty parts

4 What do I do before leaving school?



Find information from Diesel mechanics in your community and visit Diesel mechanic training centres

What are the minimum entry requirements?

Always aim for the best education you can, Mlungisi!

- Grade 10
  - Able to perform work of the trade
  - At least 16 years old
- NOTE: Some companies set higher entry requirements

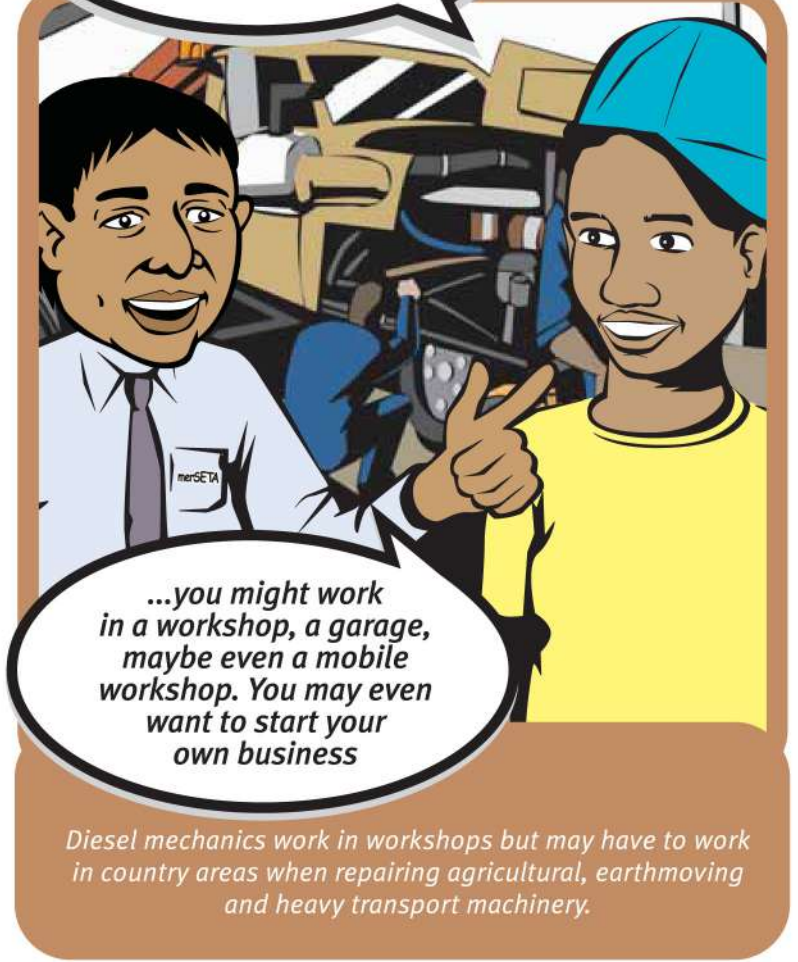
5 Mr. Naidoo, how do I apply for training?



Check for advertisements for apprenticeships and learnerships

- Identify your area of interest
- Compile your CV
- Check for advertisements for apprenticeships/learnerships opportunities in newspapers or register on relevant database
- After finding an advertised opportunity, familiarise yourself with the company
- Send your application and prepare for interview if short listed

6 Will I work in a Workshop, Mr. Naidoo?



...you might work in a workshop, a garage, maybe even a mobile workshop. You may even want to start your own business

Diesel mechanics work in workshops but may have to work in country areas when repairing agricultural, earthmoving and heavy transport machinery.