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According to the New England Institute of Technology, before you can become licensed, you are typically required to have on-the-job experience. How much experience you need depends on where you live, but it usually involves working for one to four years under a licensed HVAC contractor. Your first stop in this journey is your state or local licensing board, where you can get information on the requirements. Service Titan reports that there are a variety of licenses available to HVAC professionals. If you've attended and graduated from an HVAC educational program, that may replace on-the-job training to check is whether your state has reciprocity with other states. If it does, your license or training in one state may apply in another state. If you have the required work experience or training, the next step is to print out the application for HVAC licensure. Read the instructions carefully to find out what type of documentation is required to prove your work experience or training. Fill out the application, provide the required fee, and then send the application according to the instructions. After the licensing board receives your application, someone should contact you to inform you of your testing options. In some areas, you may be required to take an HVAC exam, as well as an exam covering business management and law. The licensing board typically refers candidates to a thirdparty testing site for taking the exam. If you think you need help with exam prep, ask the licensing board for referrals for exam prep companies in your area. Take the testing seriously, as some states only give you a few chances to pass. Once you pass the exam, contact the licensing board again to receive your license. At that time, you typically need to show a copy of your exam and pay a licensing fee of several hundred dollars - a fee you may have to pay every year to keep your license current. Your licensing board may also require you to provide a surety bond. This bond is not insurance for you and your contracting business, but instead provides your clients with potential for compensation should you not fulfill your end of the bargain on a job. Your state may also have other insurance requirements for you to operate as a legal business. If you don't want to at least keep the air flowing for a bit to reduce any stuffiness, here's how to use the Nest Thermostat to manually run the fan from your HVAC system. RELATED: How to Install and Set Up the Nest Thermostats have a setting where you can run the HVAC fan only, but the customizations are rather limited, and you likely can only turn it on and off. There's also usually an "auto" mode that turns it on whenever the A/C or heat is turned on. However, the Nest Thermostat comes with a lot more control when it comes to the system fan: you can manually turn it on from your smartphone, and even specify how long you want it on for. From the Nest app on your phone and select your Nest Thermostat on the main screen. At the bottom, tap on "Fan". From here, you can get quick access to the fan timer and set it for a specific amount of time to be on. There are different intervals to choose from and you can have it on for up to 12 hours straight. If you want more finer control of the system fan, tap on the settings gear icon in the top-right corner of the screen. Tap on "Fan". You'll have two options to choose from and you can have it on for up to 12 hours straight. duration". First, you can tap on "Every day", which will allow you to set a schedule for the system fan. You can set a time limit and a time window when the fan will turn on and off. This will happen every day. For "Timer duration", it's actually the same thing as the shortcut on the main screen, where you can turn on the fan and have it automatically turn off after a specified amount of time. On the Nest Thermostat You can do the same thing on the unit to bring up the main menu. Use the silver scroll wheel and navigate to "Fan". Push on the unit to select it. You'll have three options to choose from: "Automatically" (which is what it's set to by default), "Every Day", and "Start Now". Selecting "Every Day" will do the same thing as the "Every day" setting in the app, where you can choose how long the fan will run, as well as select a time frame of when that will happen. When you're done with that, select "Done". From there, your Nest Thermostat will show what your settings are for the fan on the main menu. With "Start Now", it's the same as "Timer duration" in the Nest app, so this allows you to manually turn the system fan on and have it automatically turn off after a specified amount of time that you've set for it. Select "Done" when you set a time and the fan will turn on. Whether you set all of this up from within the Nest app or on the Nest Thermostat unit itself, the changes will appear on both, so you can set it up on the unit and change it within the app, and vice versa. This site is not available in your country By Danielle Smyth Updated June 27, 2022 You may have heard of an EPA certification but are unaware of its meaning and how it relates to heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC). The EPA, or Environmental Protection Agency, offers certification stothese days, those interested in HVAC will often obtain their EPA certification online. Knowing how to get your EPA certification and if it transfers from state to state is crucial if you want to work throughout the United States. The EPA requires all technicians to obtain their certification to work on heating, ventilation or air conditioning. This certification is required because these appliances use harmful and dangerous chemicals like refrigerants. Refrigerants are responsible for environmental damage and must be disposed of properly. The EPA categorizes a technician as anyone who attaches or detaches hoses and gauges to appliances, or completes any other activity that changes the integrity of a motor vehicle air conditioning system or small appliances. There are a few steps to take to qualify for an EPA certification. The writers at Indeed state that you must first determine which level of certification is right for you. There are two levels of EPA certification is right for you can choose to take the exam, you'll more than likely want to start at Level 1. Each level of certification is dependent on the type of units in which you'll be working. Level 1 will allow you to work on small appliances with fewer than 5 pounds of refrigerant. There are up to four different levels of certification; however, most who have EPA certification are within the first two levels. Many people looking for information about the EPA certification, you can then begin researching exam opportunities. There are programs throughout the United States that offer both practice exams and proctored exams onsite. Many of these programs also offer training to pass your exam. You can find a list of providers of EPA certification classes on the EPA and questions about your specific level. For Level-1 testing, you can expect a total of 50 multiple choice questions, with half being core material and half being core materials. One of the most significant benefits of obtaining this certification is that your EPA certification is good in every state across the United States. This means that if you choose to relocate or are looking for work in a new state, you will have a certification behind you, making it easier for you to get a job in the HVAC field. Having this certification also means that you are qualified to work for any HVAC company and will have a set of skills to build on as part of your professional development. Another potentially unexpected benefit of this EPA certification is an increase in the exam isn't particularly high. An HVAC technician with EPA certification makes an average of \$54,154 per year, according to PayScale. This pay increase makes the cost of the exam and EPA certification more than worthwhile.

