

EST FAQ

• In what format (modality) are the classes offered?

Classes are available in the following formats:

- **Online (Distance Learning):** Fully online lectures.
- **Hybrid:** A combination of online content and in-person lectures.
- **In-Person:** Traditional classroom instruction.

All labs are in-person and hands-on, regardless of lecture modality.

• What time are the labs?

Lab sessions are available in the **morning, afternoon, and evening**, Monday through Thursday. Each lab section meets **once per week**.

• What is the difference between the Certificate of Completion and the Associate Degree in EST?

- **Certificate of Completion (COC):**
Focuses solely on HVAC-related courses. The program consists of **29 credits**.
 - **Associate of Science (A.S.) in EST:**
A **60-credit, 2-year degree** that includes all HVAC coursework from the COC, in addition to general college education requirements and **two additional courses in building automation**.
 - **Associate of Science (A.S.) in Building Automation:**
Similar to the A.S. in EST but includes **college requirements tailored for a career in building automation**.
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• Which track qualifies students for the EPA certification, Second Fireman's License, Oil Burner Technician License, and Heat Load Analyst License?

All three options—the Certificate of Completion and either Associate Degree—qualify students to **sit for the exams** required to earn these licenses.

• When does the program start?

The program starts in both the **Fall and Spring** semesters, with all required courses available each term.

- **Fall Semester:** Begins the **day after Labor Day**.
- **Spring Semester:** Starts in the **third week of January**.

Students can complete the Certificate of Completion in **two semesters** with a full-time course load.

• **How much does it cost?**

Please contact **Student Financial Services** for up-to-date tuition information and details on available **financial aid**.

• **How many classroom hours in the certificate program count toward the Massachusetts Refrigeration License?**

Refrigeration Courses:

Course Code	Course Title	Hours
EST-200 + EST-200L	Principles of Refrigeration	75
EST-201 + EST-201L	Fundamentals of Heat Pumps	75
EST-102	HVAC Fundamental Skills	60
Total		210

Electrical Courses:

Course Code	Course Title	Hours
EST-100	Theory of Control	45
EST-101	Combustion Control	45
EST-102	HVAC Fundamental Skills (also listed above)	60
EST-103	Combustion Heat	60
EST-205	Microprocessor Controls	75
EST-206	Building Management Systems	75
EST-203	HVAC Electrical Applications	45
Total		420