Electrical distribution trades workers prepare, install, repair, maintain and patrol electric power distribution networks carrying electricity to domestic, commercial and industrial users and electric train services.

**Job title examples**
- Electrical Linesworker
- Electrical Powerline Tradesperson
- Technical Cable Jointer

**Other jobs in this field of work**

**What electrical distribution trades workers do**
- install conductors and aerial equipment, and underground cables and equipment
- install and maintain equipment associated with electrical supply such as transformers
- attend to electrical breakdown and emergencies
- maintain poles and associated hardware, and continuity of electrical supply and street lighting
- conduct routine maintenance on the aerial and underground electricity supply network
- conduct low-voltage switching operations
- fit pole hardware and crossarms
- prepare low and high voltage cable joints and cable terminations while connecting and installing electrical equipment and overhead lines
- use heavy plant equipment such as elevated work platforms, and portable equipment such as hydraulic drills
- may undertake substation installation and maintenance, and specialised testing and revenue meter installation

**Main employing industries**
- Construction
- Electrical, Gas, Water and Waste Services
- Mining
Qualifications

The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

Certificatet III in ESI –Power Systems – Distribution Cable Jointing available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Certificatet III in ESI –Power Systems – Distribution Overhead available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Certificatet III in ESI –Power Systems – Rail Traction available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Certificatet III in ESI –Power Systems – Transmission Overhead available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Certificatet IV in ESI –Power Systems Substations available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Apprenticeships and traineeships: Find out how to get an apprenticeship or traineeship.

Course fees: You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the Course Finder to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

Job prospects and pay

- There are around 2,236 electrical distribution trades workers working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to decline in NSW.

Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):
- Electrical distribution trades workers: $1,446
- All occupations: $1,200

Related jobs

- Air-conditioning and Refrigeration Mechanic
- Electrician
- Electronics Trades Worker

To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit the Job Guides Homepage.

Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0
Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16
Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23