

Job training in Mexico is known as *capacitación para el trabajo*, aimed at people already active in the labour force but who need skills upgrading. This contrasts with vocational high schools known as *bachilleratos tecnológicos*, which prepare students for future jobs. Training for technical occupations that require specialized studies after high school is known as *técnico profesional*. This includes, for example, certification for work as a welder, electrician or plumber. There is another level of technical training known as *profesional medio*, which involves one year of technical training after high school.

EDUCATION CENTRES OPERATED BY *SISTEMA NACIONAL DE EDUCACIÓN TECNOLÓGICA*

■	Dirección General de Centros de Formación para el Trabajo (DGCFT)
■	Colegio Nacional de Educación Profesional Tecnológica (CONALEP)
■	Dirección General de Educación Tecnológica Industrial (DGETI)
■	Centro de Enseñanza Técnica Industrial (CETI)
■	Unidad de Educación en Ciencia y Tecnología del Mar (UECyTM)
■	Dirección General de Institutos Tecnológicos (DGIT)
■	Organismos Descentralizados de los Gobiernos de los Estados (ODE)
■	Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN)
■	Centro de Investigación y Estudios Avanzados del IPN (CIEA-IPN)

Source: *Sistema Nacional de Educación Tecnológica (SNET)*, National Technological Education System.

There are also a number of private technical institutes that are not part of the *Sistema Nacional de Educación Tecnológica (SNET)*, National Technological Education System, although they must be recognized by *Secretaría de Educación Pública (SEP)*, Secretariat of Public Education, or by the *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)*, National Autonomous University of Mexico, in order to operate. In general, the private institutes concentrate on degree programs and do not offer industrial or high school training as the public institutes do. They are similar to universities, except that they tend to offer a wider range of technical specialties, ranging from engineering and technology to exact and natural sciences. In general, their programs are considered more pragmatic and less theoretical than the equivalent university programs.