

# Career

# Paths

## MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

**The engineering discipline is diverse and features great opportunity.**

A bachelor's degree in engineering will provide the opportunity to work in many areas including industry, business, and government. It is critical to gain practical experience in the field while in college through internships, part-time or summer jobs, or volunteer experience. This will allow you to apply academic knowledge and skill to a professional setting, plus you will build your professional network.

A working knowledge of technical skills relevant to your specific engineering discipline is critical, as engineering has scientific and mathematical applications and involves analyzing facts, solving problems, and thinking logically. Due to emerging technologies and rapid changes in the engineering field, it's important to follow trends and stay abreast of new developments.

In addition to technical skills, it's important to develop transferable skills such as verbal and written communication, presenting, collaboration, teamwork, report writing, and leadership. Helpful traits include intellectual curiosity, creativity, technical aptitude, perseverance, and an understanding of the economic and environmental context in which engineering is practiced.

To learn more about the field students should connect with professionals, engage in additional training opportunities, and join professional associations and organizations related to engineering.

### Mechanical Engineering

**Example Career Paths:** Machine Design | Systems Design | Manufacturing and production | Energy conversion | Energy resources | Transportation and environmental impact | Materials and structures | Aerospace | Automotive

**Potential Employers:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration | Utility companies | National laboratories | Federal government

Industries: Automotive | Aerospace | Electronics | Chemical products | Petroleum | Textiles | Industrial equipment | Heating and air conditioning systems

**Professional Associations:** [American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics](#) | [American Nuclear Society](#) | [American Society of Mechanical Engineers](#) | [Association for Women in Science](#) | [Engineers Without Borders](#) | [Institute of Transportation Engineers](#) | [National Academy of Engineering](#) | [National Society of Black Engineers](#) | [National Society of Professional Engineers](#) | [Society of Women Engineers](#) | [Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity](#)

**Related Occupations:** [Mechanical Engineer](#) | [Automotive Engineer](#) | [Aerospace Engineer](#) | [Manufacturing Engineer](#) | [Robotics Engineer](#) | [Mechatronics Engineer](#) | [Energy Engineer](#) | [Materials Engineer](#) | [Mechanical Drafter](#) | Aeronautical Engineer | Design Engineer | Product Development Engineer | Maintenance Engineer | Thermal Systems Engineer | Biomechanical Engineer | Research and Development Engineer | Production Integration Manager | Structural Dynamics Engineer | Quality Control Engineer | Reliability Engineer

## Preparing for your Career

- Obtain relevant experience through internships, part-time work, and projects.
- Acquire necessary technical skills relevant to your desired discipline.
- Develop effective analytical, problem solving, and strong interpersonal skills.
- Develop leadership and teamwork skills.
- Anticipate specializing in technologies and products related to your target discipline.
- Explore resources such as LinkedIn to connect with engineering professionals and learn about companies, industries, job duties, and skills needed to succeed in the field.
- Join student and professional organizations to build relationships, skills, and your resume.
- Create a resume that highlights your skills and experience related to engineering, technical competencies, project work, and unique qualifications.

This resource was adapted from What Can I Do With My Major.

For more, visit <https://web.uri.edu/career/wcidwmm/>

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