

Graduate Civil Engineering Careers - Building City Streets

The field of civil engineering is becoming more competitive as city and national governments look for innovative civil designs. Civil engineers are needed for local government agencies that need to develop sewerage systems that coexist with electrical, water, and transportation systems. National government agencies in the United Kingdom and Europe need excellent civil engineers to create innovative public buildings, roadway designs, and public transportation systems. The civil engineering field has become more design oriented, with public figures and leaders demanding a combination of form and function in even the drabest public building.

Graduates with civil engineering specialties need to consider the skill set that is needed for success in the industry. Civil engineers typically need to specialise early in their careers in order to focus their attention and become successful in one aspect of the industry. Graduates have a variety of specialties to choose from, including hydraulic, structural, and transportation engineering. Once specialisation is established, graduates need to demonstrate their creative and technical abilities in the workplace. Civil engineers need to be able to think of creative designs of typically mundane public structures like processing plants and warehouses. Creativity needs to be mixed with exceptional technical skills in order to create buildings and structures that will last a long time.

The civil engineering field is increasingly competitive, with increasing pressure coming from international engineering firms into the United Kingdom and Europe. Civil engineering graduates need to be able to demonstrate that their education experience, intelligence, and enthusiasm set them apart from the competition. They also need to show their commitment to the profession, which can be shown by a certification with the Institution of Civil Engineers. Most firms do not require this certification though it acts as a seal of professional excellence to employers and clients.

Graduates interested in civil engineering should consider the daily life of a civil engineer before jumping into the profession. Civil engineers have incredibly demanding jobs, considering the scale at which they are performing their jobs. A typical day for a civil engineer will start with staff meetings to go over departmental projects, firm policies, and due dates to coordinate a variety of services. Civil engineers spend hours working on blueprints, computer assisted drafting programs, and other printed materials needed by government leaders and public decision makers. As well, civil engineers will go to work sites to speak with construction managers about design changes and issues that invariably arise.

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