FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS TO BECOMING A PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED ENGINEER

Work-based Bachelors and Masters degrees in Professional Engineering leading to Incorporated Engineer (IEng) or Chartered Engineer (CEng)
Employer benefits

• A flexible and cost-effective way of meeting company and employee aspirations, without losing engineers from the workplace
• A structured learning programme tailored to the needs of the employer
• Results in an increased number of in-company professionally qualified engineers
• Relationship with a university or college and the potential for knowledge exchange
• Well qualified professional engineers provide a significant commercial advantage. Increasingly, tendering or post-tender contract compliance, both in the UK and internationally, requires key members of the project team to be professionally qualified.

Employee benefits

• A workplace pathway to achieving academic qualifications, which lead to Incorporated or Chartered status
• Learning and the development of professional competence are linked to workplace activities
• ‘Learning whilst earning’ means no loss of income
• Support and mentoring
• Better promotion prospects
• Increased job satisfaction

Benefits of IEng or CEng

Once qualified, engineers holding IEng or CEng status enjoy a number of benefits, including:
• Internationally recognised qualifications
• Enhanced professional status and recognition
• Improved career prospects
• Greater influence within their organisation and industry
• The use of the post-nominals IEng or CEng
How the programme works

Engineers enrolling on the programme agree a ‘learning contract’ with an academic supervisor from their chosen university or college and their employer. This sets out an individual programme of learning, as well as development of professional competence. Based around the engineer’s work, it therefore meets the needs of the employer as well.

Successful completion of the programme results in the award of a Bachelors or Masters degree, while the structured programmes mean that each individual is well supported in preparation for the professional review for IEng or CEng qualification.

Applicants for IEng or CEng status are assessed against the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC), which is the standard for qualification as a professional engineer. See www.engc.org.uk/UKSPEC

Professional Engineering Institutions

The programmes are available in a range of engineering disciplines, and applicants will need to join a relevant professional engineering institution (PEI). Participating PEIs are able to provide individuals with feedback about their proposed learning and competence development plans.

For a list of participating professional engineering institutions please visit: www.engc.org.uk/engineeringgateways

Availability

For a list of universities and colleges offering these programmes please visit: www.engc.org.uk/engineeringgateways

Further programmes are being developed – for more information email the Engineering Council at engineeringgateways@engc.org.uk
What next?
Interested employers should email the Engineering Council at engineeringgateways@engc.org.uk

For interested employees, there are three main steps to take:
• Obtain agreement from your employer
• Apply to enrol with a university or college offering the programme
• Join a relevant professional engineering institution
Flexible work-based Bachelors and Masters degree programmes provide a new opportunity to learn while earning, making IEng or CEng status achievable for all eligible practising engineers.

The individually tailored programmes are designed around the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC) and integrate learning in the workplace with supervised work-based professional development.

Experience has shown that work-related projects under focused academic supervision have a very high completion and success rate, with major benefits to both employees and employers.