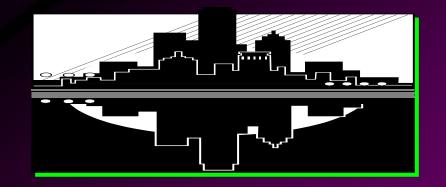
CAREERS IN TRANSPORTATION & ENGINEERING

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Traffic & Transportation Engineering





What is Engineering?



The application of:

scientific & mathematical principles to obtain practical ends for the

Design, Construction, or Operation of efficient, economical, & environmentally sound Structures, Equipment, or Systems for

Just about EVERYTHING AROUND YOU! involves <u>Engineering</u>

What Are the Branches of Engineering? Four Main Types of Engineers

Civil – Buildings, bridges, transportation, traffic, water, soils, environmental, planning, tunnels, soils, seismic, airports, construction, surveying, foundations, ITS, retaining walls, sound walls, grading, transit, railroad & highways...



- Electrical Computers (hardware/software), electronics, electrical designs for buildings, lighting, and transportation systems, systems design, & intelligent transportation systems (ITS)...
- Mechanical Automobiles, engines, airplanes, space shuttles, design of heating & cooling systems & mechanical systems for buildings...
- Chemical Chemistry related products, environmental, toxic waste, & petroleum related products...



What is Infrastructure?

All roads, structures, bridges, pipelines, channels, traffic signal & communications cabling/conduit, drainage & sewer/sanitary pipes, water lines, storm drains, and rail lines, etc. Our society depends on <u>infrastructure</u> for the transportation of people & products.

WHO TYPICALLY DESIGNS INFRASTRUCTURE?





Where Does An Engineer Work?

- Outdoors—"in-the-field"
- In an office
- At a factory or manufacturing plant
- In a lab
- At a research center
- At a university or college
- At a construction site
- For a governmental agency
 - For a private consulting firm
 - Or start your own business







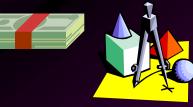


Career Options in Transportation

- Be a City Traffic Engineer /Transportation Manager
- Be a Traffic Engineering Consultant
- Design Freeways, Mass Transit, Rail or Street Projects
- Design Traffic Signal, Striping or Traffic Control Plans
- Design High Tech Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Work in/Operate a Traffic Management Center
- Conduct Traffic & Parking Studies
- Become a Professor (Need Master's Degree +)
- Work at a Research Facility
- Invent New Innovative Products/Devices
- Become an Expert Witness in Transportation
- Manage Large or Small Projects
- Run Your Own Engineering Business

Opportunities in Transportation

- Local & State Funding Increased \$\$—Need for Engineers
- Many are Retiring—Leaving a Gap in Engineering
- Development Projects Still Active—Economy Affects
- Early Management Opportunities Likely
- Can Work With the Public Directly or Not
- Qualified Engineers to Help Recommend Standards
- Diverse Career & Unique Transportation Challenges
- Salaries on the Rise....\$135,000 by 2009 for Senior Civil Engineers at City of Santa Ana & Other Increases



Proposition 42, Measure M, State Bonds 1A & 1B & the Public Wants Improvements!!

Steps to Becoming An Engineer

- Obtain a Bachelor's of Science Degree (4+ years)
- Pass the "Engineer-in-training" exam*
- Accrue engineering experience
- Pass the professional engineer's (P.E.) exam*



NOTE: Once you pass the P.E. exam, you become a licensed engineer in the state you took the exam. Having a P.E. license allows a person to sign and approve (stamp) plans. It is a license which indicates a person is authorized to practice in engineering, kind of like how a doctor or lawyer is licensed to practice in their professions.

THE P.E. = THE "BAR" OF ENGINEERING

* Although the P.E. is not required for some areas of engineering, best to get it in case future career switch & if every you may be designing or approving design plans.

Getting Started--Engineering Internships

- Participate & Volunteer in ITE & ASCE & Other Engineering Organizations—Network, Network, Network!!
- Get to Know Your Professors & Professionals in the Field
- Ask Questions & Seek Advice
- Build Good Relationships With Other Students & Beyond
- Obtain Engineering Internships & Volunteer if Necessary
- Get Work Experience & Build Communication, Writing & Customer/Service/Sales Skills.... Sometimes it is Less About the Technical & More About People & Negotiation Skills
- Strive for Balance!! Schedule Relaxation & Play too!



Applying for the Job!

Resumes:

- Show What You Have <u>Done</u> in the Active Voice "Led," "Participated in," "Initiated," etc.
- Keep the Same Tense Throughout
- Review & Recheck So No Spelling/Grammatical Errors
- Attend Workshops
- Should Not Be More Than One Page Early In Career!
- Be Truthful
- It is Often Your First Impression
- Show Volunteer Work & Breadth of Skills
- Show Leadership & Teamwork

Applying for the Job!

Interviewing:

- Share Your Skills & What You Have Learned & Done
- Be Aware of Interviewer's Body Language
- Show Genuine Enthusiasm But Don't Be Desperate
- Think About <u>What Employers Want</u>! (Motivated, Honest & Dedicated Employees With People Skills Who Have Initiative & Are Problem Solvers, Rather Than Problem Creaters!)
- If You Haven't Done Something, Don't Say You Have.
 Instead Suggest How Other Skills Might Relate to the Skills
 Being Sought Out—<u>DON'T Try to B.S. Anyone!</u> Instead, Just
 Get Your BS!! ③
- Learn From Every Interview (Good or Bad)
- Good Eye Contact & Try Not to Overstress Yourself!
- Remember, Interviewers Are People Too!

Civil Engineering Skills & For All Engineers.... Drafting ability --Plan View Side View 3-D View or TOP View

Ability to read design plans (blue prints, etc.)

Reasonable mathematical and scientific competency

- A logical mind
- Field, construction, and surveying experience = A plus!
- Computer ability AutoCadd, Intergraph, Microstation, spreadsheets, etc.
 Should have a visual sense Perhaps you enjoy reading maps & are practical in how you do things. You may also have a good sense of direction.

Seek engineering internships while in college or in the summers. Volunteer if you have to! Companies & governmental agencies often hire interns.

To become a P.E., make sure your engineering school is "ABET ACCREDITED." Talk to counselors & attend orientation programs for additional information.

Traffic Engineering—Special Skills

- Communications Skills: Verbal & Written
- Dealing With the Public--When Angry--It's Not Personal
- Sales Skills: Removing Objections & Feel, Felt, Found....
- Presentation Skills, Powerpoint & Speak So Can Be Heard!
- Mix Between Technical/Science & Human Behavior/Psychology
- An Underestimated Profession Which is Surprisingly Broad!
- Fun & Challenging!





THERE IS A LOT TO DO & GET DONE!!!

Phases of a Large Project

To Be Planned & Built—Why So Long?

- Planning
- Environmental studies EIS/EIR
- Conceptual design

- Preliminary engineering
 PSR, PR, preferred alternative studies
 Final design (PS&E phase), the plans used for construction
 Construction of the infrastructure
- As-built survey and plans to confirm what was actually built.

SEISMIC DESIGN: Design of structures so that they will not collapse under an 8.0 (richter scale) earthquake.



Paying for Engineering Degree

Don't Let Money Stop You!



- Apply for scholarships and grants
 Take required college entrance exams, PSAT, SAT, ACT, etc...
 Work! It builds your resume and your character!!!
 Start at a junior college first if money is an issue and transfer for your last 2 years to an "ABET" school
- Good grades in high school can help lead to scholarships (talk to your counselor)
- Borrow if necessary –student loans are a great deal & pay off!
- Plan ahead and save now too! It's worth it!
- Take drafting classes, etc.
- There's also plenty of writing in engineering
- Stick with your math/science classes even when tough
- Good communicators are needed in Engineering!
 - GOOD LUCK & GO-FOR-IT!

Engineering Career Steps Overcoming Challenges!

- You Apply for but Don't Get Your First Engineering Job: Don't Fret—Learn From Both Good & Less Pleasant Situations
- You Work Somewhere But Don't Have A Fully Positive Experience: Learn How You Would Have Handled Things Better as An Employee, Team Member & Future Manager or Supervisor



- You Don't Get a Promotion You Were Qualified For: Be Open to How You Can Improve For the Next Time—Learn From ALL Disappointments. Remember That Less Pleasant Experiences Just Make You a Stronger Person!
- Keep Your Cool & Calm Even in Tough Situations: If Upset, Don't Immediately React, Step Back & Let Things Settle Before Planning an Appropriate Reaction or If it is Best to Let That Go
- If Having a Tough Time at Work or in a Class:
 Get Assistance/Tutoring & Work With Others to Identify & Overcome Obstacles

Always Try to Understand the Perspective of Others & Your Employer

Careers in Transportation & Engineering

THE TRAIN OF TOMORROW? How About TODAY!





Careers in Transportation & Engineering Best Wishes in Your Career!



GOOD LUCK & GO-FOR-IT! msuter@santa-ana.org

