



Suffolk Joint
Construction
Committee

Civil Engineer

Civil engineers design and supervise large construction projects which support our transport systems, cities and homes. They need to have key skills to turn ideas into reality.

THE ROLE

As designers and innovators, civil engineers create things that didn't exist before and do things in new and exciting ways to improve the systems around us. They find ways of recycling our waste, and finding solutions to problems like pollution.

To be a civil engineer you will need to be good at working as part of a team and have the skills to communicate your ideas, designs and thoughts as well as listening to clients and other members of engineering teams.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

- Structural – bridges, dams, offshore platforms and pipelines
- Transportation – roads, railways, canals and airports
- Environmental – water supply networks, drainage and flood barriers
- Maritime – ports, harbours and sea defences
- Geotechnical – mining, dams, earthworks and construction foundations

SALARY EXPECTATIONS

A civil engineer trainee can earn between £12,000 and £16,000 a year

A graduate engineer can earn between £22,000 and £28,000 a year

Senior civil engineer can earn between £40,000 and £50,000 a year

CAREER PROGRESSION

GRADUATE
ENGINEER

ENGINEER

SENIOR
ENGINEER

PRINCIPLE
ENGINEER

Civil Engineer

ENTRY ROUTE

- Bachelor's degree or Master's degree in Civil Engineering.
- A good understanding of maths and science
- An eye for design and a mind for critical thinking – design is not just looking good, it has to be fit for purpose. The process of a build can involve a lot of problem solving to get to the perfect design for the client
- The ability to communicate effectively. Often you will have to liaise with the client, statutory bodies, professional bodies, contractors, general public and many others to get the build right for everyone
- Organisational skills, and working to deadlines are very important

TYPICAL TASKS FOR A CIVIL ENGINEER:

- Design work and using Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Building Information Management (BIM)
- Critically judging costs, time and labour requirements
- Managing and monitoring progress during a project
- Data Analysis
- Site surveys, testing and mapping data
- Assessing for environmental impact and risks

For more information on becoming a civil engineer visit:

www.goconstruct.org

www.citb.co.uk

or talk to your local college

Your career journey starts here!

