



Suffolk Joint
Construction
Committee

Electrician

Electricians make our buildings work, they bring power and lighting to every building we live and work in.

THE ROLE

Most electricians start work as an apprentice from 16 to 20 years old, some join as a electricians mate and others may join after deciding to change careers.

You will be expected to attend college on day release for 3 to 4 years learning your trade and to take both written and practical exams.

You would work on all types of buildings, new or refurbishment, including hospitals, schools, offices, public and listed buildings.

Whilst being an electrician is a hands on career, it also requires you to be able to problem solve, read and interpret drawings, diagrams and instructions and to be a team player.

SALARY EXPECTATIONS

An apprentice electrician earns around £10,500 to £17,000

Electricians earn around £20,000 to £28,000

Approved electricians earn around £30,000 to £35,000 electrical foreman (looking after a project team on site) earns around £40,000

An electrical project manager can earn around £45,000

CAREER PROGRESSION

**ELECTRICIAN'S
APPRENTICE**

ELECTRICIAN

FORMEAN

**ELECTRICAL
PROJECT
MANAGER**

Electrician

ENTRY ROUTE

You will need to have GCSE grade C's in English Maths and Information Technology or be prepared to gain these transferable skills at level 2.

The apprenticeship is made up of 3 to 4 years at college on day release whilst working the other 4 days a week on site gaining practical experience on electrical installations.

Both the on-site experience and college teaching provides Health and Safety teaching, working in a team and taking responsibility for your works and action.

An electricians mate is similar to a labourer but working alongside an electrician, learning the basic first fix installation of conduit, basket and tray. A practical hands on craftsman, but this is limited in progression as you would need the electrical qualifications to actually install the wiring and to make an electrical system work.

COURSES INCLUDE:

- Level 3–8 Knowledge units including H&S, planning and preparing your work, terminating and connecting, inspection and testing and electrical principles
- Level 3–7 Performance units including application of H&S, overseeing work, electrical systems installation and diagnosing and rectifying faults
- AM2 – Electro technical competence unit which is mandatory to pass to complete the course and to become qualified.

TYPICAL TASKS FOR AN ELECTRICIAN:

- Install, maintain and repair electrical services (eg. lighting, sockets, fire alarms, emergency lighting & heating controls)
- Work indoors and outdoors and be prepared to sometimes work at height
- Work with little or no supervision; relying on their own initiative or work as a team putting together a large installation
- Be prepared to travel away from home
- Develop good working relationships
- Read both building and engineering drawings
- Select materials and equipment for an installation
- Inspect, test diagnose and rectify faults on an electrical installation

For more information on becoming an electrician visit:

www.goconstruct.org

www.cibse.org

www.citb.co.uk

or talk to your local college

Your career journey starts here!

