

Careers in Consulting Engineering

Consulting engineering is a fast-paced environment that combines technical engineering and business skills and provides opportunities to work on a wide variety of exciting and challenging projects.



**ENGINEERING
EDUCATION**
FOUNDATION OF AMERICA
A charitable organization of ACEC Minnesota





What is a Consulting Engineer?

Consulting engineering is a profession similar to law, medicine, and accounting in that consulting engineers are hired by clients for their expertise and/or available resources. Consulting engineers are hired by both public agencies and private companies. Sometimes a consultant is hired for their specific knowledge/experience, while other times a client may have the necessary expertise, but not the available resources to complete a project. Hiring consulting engineering firms on an as-needed basis helps clients keep costs down by not having to carry their own in-house engineers.

Many engineering students join consulting firms right out of college, while other engineers develop expertise in a particular field of engineering after college and feel that their experience and talents warrant an independent venture. They may want to establish their own firm or join another established company.

Working in a consulting engineering firm can provide a challenging and creative career path. **A consulting engineer must not only be a good engineer to succeed, but they must also be a proficient business manager.** They need to

have financial, human resources, and marketing skills. The competitive environment in which the consulting engineer operates requires innovative thinking, flexibility and efficiency.

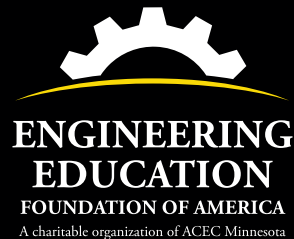
These firms range in size from sole proprietors to multinational firms with hundreds of engineers, scientists, and technicians in many offices. Consulting engineers may design an entire project or be responsible for only one element of a larger plan. **Quality is a basic tenet of the consulting engineering profession.** Consulting firms build their reputations on being experts in specific disciplines of engineering.

Consulting engineers often work on teams as most projects require a variety of expertise. **The individual engineer may focus primarily on technical work, or they may serve as a manager coordinating the work of a team.** These teams may include other engineers or professions including natural scientists, planners, surveyors, architects, archaeologists, and financial analysts. Because the engineer will need to communicate well both with internal teams and often with external public and review agencies, **they must be effective communicators.**



Scholarships available!

We want to help fund your engineering education with scholarships available for your bachelor's or master's degree at an ABET-accredited institution.



Eligibility Requirements

- Must be pursuing a bachelor's or master's degree at an ABET-accredited institution in Minnesota or a neighboring state (Wisconsin, Iowa, North or South Dakota).
- Sophomore year or later.
- All engineering disciplines and land surveying are eligible.
- United States citizen.

How to Apply

Applications are accepted year-round.
Scholarship awards are made twice annually (fall and spring).

Complete the online scholarship application package here:





About EEFA

The Engineering Education Foundation of America (EEFA) is a nonprofit established by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota. The Foundation focuses on and invests in promoting careers in the engineering field.

Our initiatives include:

- Support STEM education to inspire future engineers
- Build partnerships with post-secondary schools to promote engineering careers
- Support early career engineering professionals to promote workforce retention
- Provide continuing education opportunities for practicing engineers

Questions? Want to learn more? Visit www.engineeringfoundation.org or scan the QR code below.

