Careers Service resources and information for Civil & Environmental Engineering students

Welcome!
Deciding what you would like to do after you graduate can sometimes seem like a daunting prospect. The Careers Service work closely with academic staff and employers to provide tailored resources to help you explore your options, find out more about the various career paths you could take and ultimately find the pathway that’s right for you. We’ve created this resource pack to help you as a student in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Imperial to research specific job sectors related to your studies.

Starting points:

- **prospects.ac.uk – Options with Civil Engineering**
  [https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/civil-engineering](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/civil-engineering)
  The Prospects site includes information and advice covering: your skills; job options; career areas; further study; what next; case studies; contacts and job search sites.

- **The Institute of Civil Engineers – Careers and Training**
  The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) is a professional membership body that government and industry listen to while providing unrivalled support to our 92,000 civil engineer members.

What do graduates (like me) do?
When trying to decide what to do after university you might find it helpful to look at what graduates from your degree have done. Having a broad understanding of what you can do with a degree from Civil & Environmental Engineering at Imperial is a great starting point to gain inspiration and deeper insights into career paths. Some graduates will have moved into a career directly related to their studies while others may have taken alternative routes. You may discover that some graduates took time out while other pursued further study or training options at MSc, PhD or specialist vocational levels. You may also notice that some made a career change some time after graduating.

- **Graduate Outcomes Survey – What do Imperial graduates do?**
  [http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/exploring-your-options/destinations/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/exploring-your-options/destinations/)
  The Graduate Outcomes (GO) survey (previously known as the Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey) captures key information about employment and job roles etc. The GO survey asks our graduates what they were doing 15 months after completion of the studies at Imperial.
Imperial College LinkedIn – Alumni Search Tool
https://www.linkedin.com/school/imperial-college-london/people/
Exploring the profiles of graduates from your course can show the longer
term career paths they have taken. You can filter our alumni network by
course of study, company, job profile and geographic location. This is a
powerful tool to gain deep insights and explore the diversity of our alumni.

Professional skills:

A degree in Civil & Environmental Engineering opens up a wide range of career options and
a world of exploration. One of the reasons for this is that engineers are highly skilled. Civil
Engineers in particular are:

- Creative approach to problem-solving
- Critical thinking skills
- Ability to interpret data
- Numeracy, IT and communication skills
- Analytical and decision-making abilities
- An awareness of ethical issues

Many employers value the skills acquired from your degree which is why the industry areas
our graduates go on to work in is broad. It’s a good idea to take a little time to think about
what skills you have, how you would evidence these and what motivates you. Our Know
Yourself http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/exploring-your-options/career/know/ section
of our website can help with this process if you’re struggling to begin.

Throughout your degree you have access to a number of tailored presentations and
workshops providing you with advice on career planning, CV writing and interview tips.
Many of the PowerPoint slides or lecture recordings for these can be requested.

Professional associations & membership organisations:

Below are some links to organisations and learned societies that deal with various areas
related to Civil & Environmental Engineering. Taking out student membership of a relevant
professional body or working toward chartered professional accreditation, can significantly
increase your career options and be a great boost to your CV. Student memberships can
give access to job listings and careers information while offering great networking
opportunities. Some memberships may even allow you to register your CV to vacancy
matching services or to be viewed by other members of the community.

- Chartered Institute of Civil Engineer Surveyors - https://www.cices.org/
- Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation - https://www.ciht.org.uk/
- Institute of Civil Engineers - https://www.ice.org.uk/
- Institution of Structural Engineers - https://www.istructe.org/
- Institute of Water - https://www.instituteofwater.org.uk/
• International Society for Rock Mechanics - https://www.isrm.net/
• The British Geotechnical Association - https://www.britishgeotech.org/
• Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management - https://www.ciwem.org/

These are just some of the hundreds of societies and organisations dealing with Civil Engineering related fields. Wikipedia provides a list of civil engineering organisations https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_engineering_societies#United_Kingdom for reference.

Finding & applying to job vacancies

Information and advice about how to find employment opportunities can be found on our Finding Opportunities http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/opportunities/ webpages which discusses various strategies and resources. We also host our own jobs board within JobsLive http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/services/jobslive/ where you can search a database of around 8,000 organisations and employers by their “business area”. You will likely also get various emails sent to you during your studies from Civil Engineering with relevant opportunities for you or inviting you to talks or networking events. These events can be a great way to find out about individuals working in certain industries and an opportunity to understand the culture of various companies. We’ve created some resources to help with Networking http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/opportunities/networking/ and to improve your skills and confidence.

When you apply to a vacancy you may need help in constructing a CV, filling out an Application Form, drafting a Cover Letter or preparing for Interview. We offer support on all of these areas through The Application Process http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/application-process/ section of our website, within various careers events, specifically our Seminars & Workshops http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/services/events/ and through a range of one-to-one Bookable Appointments http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/services/book-an-appointment/.

While much of our service provision is focused on the UK we’ve paid a subscription to give you access to the GoinGlobal resource through our Working Abroad http://www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/opportunities/abroad/ webpages. GoinGlobal provides you with international job listings and employer directories alongside country specific information and application support.

Specialist recruitment agencies & jobs boards

There are thousands of recruitment agencies operating in the UK and internationally. Essentially their role is to act as a bridge between a company who have a job vacancy and
someone like you who’s looking for a job. Their basic function is to find the most suitable candidate for that job.

While an agency can bring many benefits to a job seeker it’s important to remember that the agent is working for their client (that’s the company with the job vacancy) and you are simply a resource they can profit from. While agencies can form part of your job search they shouldn’t be your only strategy as they’re in it for themselves. Additionally, you should remember that the agent is paid by the client so if you’re asked to pay a fee we’d encourage you to stop and think if it’s necessary and what you gain in return!

Here are a few agencies we know work in areas related to Civil & Environmental Engineering:

- **Allen & York** - a leading international recruitment consultancy with a passion for sustainable business growth. [www.allen-york.com](http://www.allen-york.com)
- **Careers in Construction** – is affiliated with five other jobs boards to provide you with more results [www.careersinconstruction.com/jobs/](http://www.careersinconstruction.com/jobs/)
- **CCE Careers** - [https://www.ceecareers.com/](https://www.ceecareers.com/)
- **Civil Engineering Central** – engineering careers [https://civilengineeringcentral.com/](https://civilengineeringcentral.com/)
- **Earthworks** - job posting board for oil, energy, mining, seismology, sustainability, waste management and many more related areas. [www.earthworks-jobs.com](http://www.earthworks-jobs.com)
- **Engineering.com** - [https://www.engineering.com/jobs/civil-engineering/](https://www.engineering.com/jobs/civil-engineering/)
- **Gradcracker** - a leading website focused on STEM jobs, placements and internships for STEM students. [www.gradcracker.com](http://www.gradcracker.com)
- **GreenJobs Online** - cover environmental and renewable energy jobs across all industry sectors. [www.greenjobsonline.co.uk](http://www.greenjobsonline.co.uk)
- **Hays Specialist Recruitment** - a leading global recruitment agency placing over 63,000 people into permanent roles last year. [www.hays.co.uk/job/construction-property-jobs/civil-engineering/](http://www.hays.co.uk/job/construction-property-jobs/civil-engineering/)
- **Institute of Civil Engineers** – has a careers section [www.icerecruit.com/](http://www.icerecruit.com/)
- **Jobs.ac.uk** - a jobs board for research, science, academic, teaching and management jobs and studentships in the public and private sector. [www.jobs.ac.uk](http://www.jobs.ac.uk)
- **Kinetica** - specialists in scientific recruitment. [www.kinetica.co.uk](http://www.kinetica.co.uk)
- **Matchtech** - provide clients with complete recruitment solutions across Engineering, Technology, Professional and Skills & Employability sectors. [www.matchtech.com](http://www.matchtech.com)
- **New Civil Engineers** - [https://www.newcivilengineercareers.com/jobs/](https://www.newcivilengineercareers.com/jobs/)
- **SRG** - an award-winning resourcing company dedicated to the science, clinical and engineering sectors. [www.srg.co.uk](http://www.srg.co.uk)
- **WorkingSmart** – a specialised energy recruitment company to the upstream oil and gas industry and recently extended to midstream, petrochemical, refinery and renewables. [www.working-smart.co.uk](http://www.working-smart.co.uk)

To find further agencies operating in the area you may want to explore The Recruitment & Employment Confederation (UK) Membership Directory [https://www.rec.uk.com/membership/member-directory](https://www.rec.uk.com/membership/member-directory) or speak to people within the industry to see where jobs adverts are placed.
Other links of potential interest

- **Change Agents UK** - project based experience in energy, waste and environmental management. [www.changeagents.org.uk](http://www.changeagents.org.uk)
- **ENDS Directory** - a directory of consultants and service providers within the environmental sector. [www.ends.co.uk](http://www.ends.co.uk)
- **Environment Agency** - sponsored by the UK government’s Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, with responsibilities relating to the protection and enhancement of the environment in England. [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)
- **UK Science Park Association (UKSPA)** - representation of all UK science parks and provides a listing of companies affiliated with them. [www.ukspa.org.uk/members](http://www.ukspa.org.uk/members)