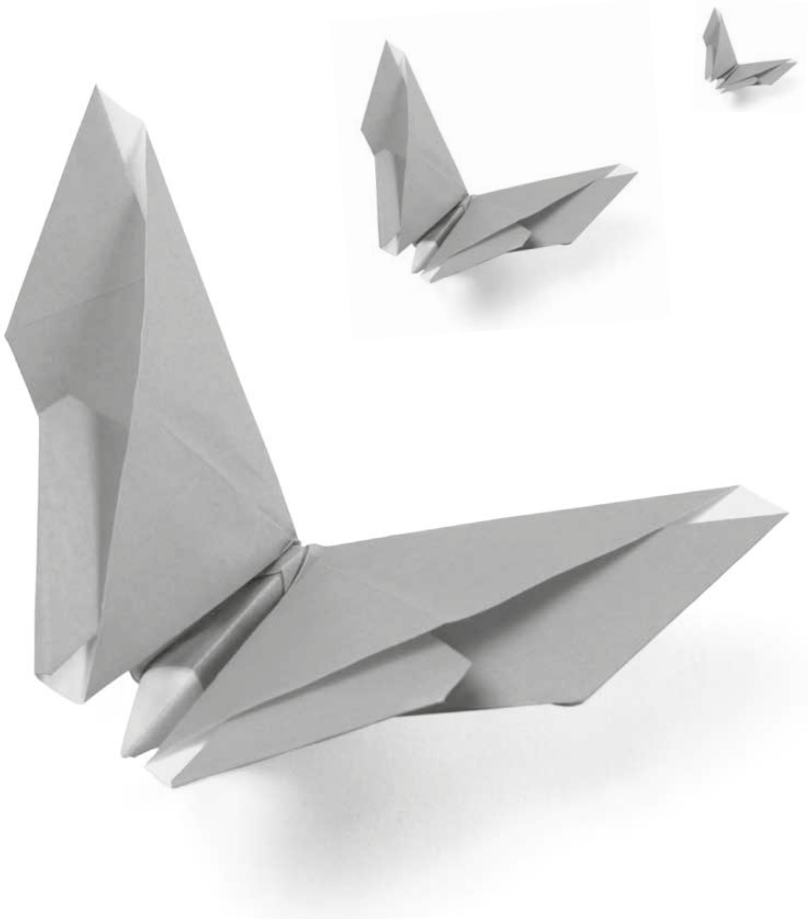


knowledge.experience.commitment

IEng CEng



A GUIDE TO PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

Making the transition
from student to professional

www.engc.org.uk

 Engineering
Council

WHY SHOULD I BECOME PROFESSIONALLY REGISTERED?

Although your immediate focus will no doubt be working hard to finish your studies, it's never too early to start to think about what comes next.

If you are looking to pursue a career in engineering, then achieving professional registration is an important step. It is the best way to show employers that you are committed to making the transition from student to professional.

Gaining professional registration gives you a title to show employers and wider society, in the UK and abroad, that you have the knowledge, skills and attitude they value. It demonstrates that your competence and understanding of engineering principles have been independently assessed and that you have shown a commitment to keeping them up-to-date.

Whichever title you apply for, the benefits of professional registration are the same:

- Improved career prospects and employability
- International recognition of your competence and commitment
- Greater influence within your organisation and industry
- Demonstration of work ethic valued by employers and customers
- Evidence of your expertise and hard work
- Enhanced status leading to higher self esteem

Employers value professional registration

“Professional registration is now a stipulation by our customers for key personnel for our top projects.”

Bill Hewlett
CEng FICE
Technical Director,
Costain Group PLC

“Being a CEng demonstrates my competence and knowledge as an engineer so my employer can have confidence in my ability.”

Rachel Long CEng MIMMM

WHICH TITLE SHOULD I AIM FOR?

As an engineering graduate, you have two options: Incorporated Engineer (IEng) or Chartered Engineer (CEng)¹.

IEng and CEng are both well-recognised titles that provide public demonstration of your achievements. The title you apply for will depend on a number of factors.



IEng
Incorporated Engineer

Many engineers follow a career path that sees them using the IEng skill set, while others acquire the additional skills and competences required for CEng registration.



CEng
Chartered Engineer

If you were thinking of working directly towards CEng status, you could find that you are eligible for IEng registration several years earlier than CEng. It is well worth going for the IEng title as it provides you with all the benefits of professional registration, but sooner.

Some professional engineering institutions also offer interim registration, which puts you on the path to professional registration if you have not yet had the relevant practical experience to meet the full competency requirements.

The next pages outline what Incorporated and Chartered Engineers typically do. There are many routes to becoming IEng and CEng; the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC) describes the requirements that have to be met for professional registration for each title and gives examples of ways to do this. You will be given lots of help and advice when you apply.

IEng:
90%
agreed that they would recommend to other engineers that they become professionally registered

IEng:
88%
valued their professional registration highly

CEng:
93%
agreed that they would recommend to other engineers that they become professionally registered

CEng:
85%
valued their professional registration highly

Source: Engineering Council 2013 registrant survey

¹The other titles are Engineering Technician (EngTech) and ICT Technician (ICTTech)

INCORPORATED ENGINEER

Incorporated Engineers maintain and manage applications of current and developing technology, and may undertake engineering design, development, manufacture, construction and operation.

They are able to demonstrate:

- The theoretical knowledge to solve problems in developed technologies using well proven analytical techniques
- Successful application of their knowledge to deliver engineering projects or services using established technologies and methods
- Responsibility for project and financial planning and management together with some responsibility for leading and developing other professional staff
- Effective interpersonal skills in communicating technical matters
- Commitment to professional engineering values.

“Being an IEng is another box ticked for potential business wins. I am urging my fellow self-employed engineers to do the same to make them stand out in the increasingly competitive job market.”

Shakir Tahir
IEng MIET



CHARTERED ENGINEER

Chartered Engineers develop solutions to engineering problems using new or existing technologies, through innovation, creativity and change and/or they may have technical accountability for complex systems with significant levels of risk.

They are able to demonstrate:

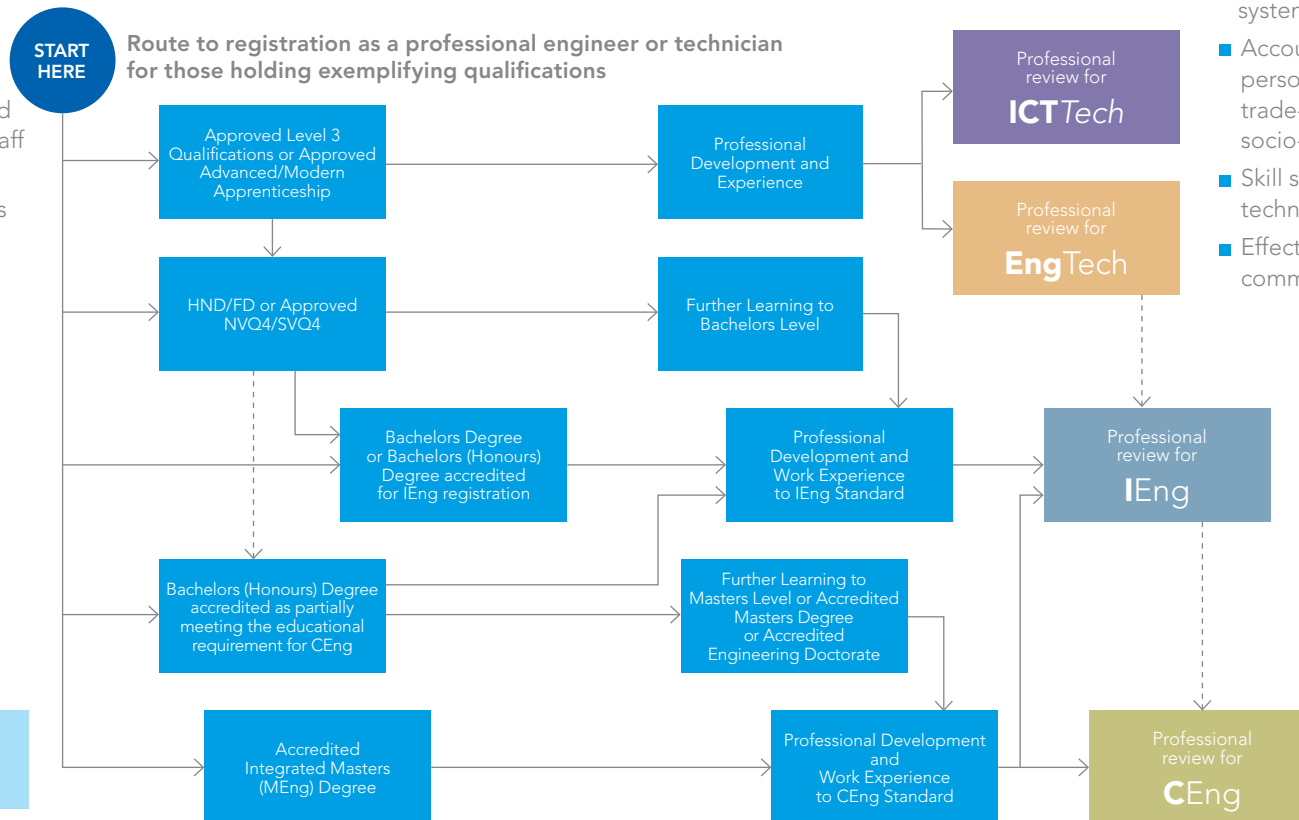
- The theoretical knowledge to solve problems in new technologies and develop new analytical techniques
- Successful application of the knowledge to deliver innovative products and services and/or take technical responsibility for complex engineering systems
- Accountability for project, finance and personnel management and managing trade-offs between technical and socio-economic factors
- Skill sets necessary to develop other technical staff
- Effective interpersonal skills in communicating technical matters.



Is my degree accredited?

To take a 'standard route' to professional registration you should have an accredited degree. You can check whether your course is accredited and learn more at: www.engc.org.uk/courses.

Standard route applications provide the simplest path to registration, but you can opt for an individual assessment of your knowledge and understanding.



“Being a CEng has really helped me, especially when dealing with designers and clients on site. They respect my suggestions and comments more, which can be useful as a woman engineer.”

Helen Randell MEng CEng MICE

WHAT CAN I DO NOW TOWARDS BECOMING PROFESSIONALLY REGISTERED?

Become a member

Join one or more of the licensed professional engineering institutions as soon as you can - a link to the full list is on the back cover. The earlier you join the sooner you can start to benefit from the support offered. The engineering institution(s) you choose may have accredited your course and should relate to your area of study. Many offer student membership at little or no cost and signing up will make sure that you keep up with what's happening in your field. The job market is tough and every little helps.

Get a head start

You should start to record your professional development as soon as possible. Your institution can provide guidelines and many have online tools to help you to do this. Part of your professional development could take place while you study, or through industrial placements. If you haven't already, start to make the most of the activities run by your engineering institution(s).

Stay in touch

Don't forget to let your institution(s) know your new contact details when you finish studying to avoid losing touch and missing out on membership benefits. Remember that your chosen licensed professional engineering institution(s) may offer networking opportunities or be able to help you with job hunting; your membership will show potential employers that you are serious about your career.

“ Being professionally registered gives confidence to clients, both old and new, that I am competent to complete my role as a Senior Fire Engineer. ”

Michael Clifford
BEng (Hons) MSc
CEng FIFireE
CPEng MIPENZ
FCABE

“ Now I am consulting, being professionally registered as a CEng means I can work at a higher pay scale and on projects where clients require the consulting capability of people that are at the top of their profession. ”

Nikki Barker
CEng MIMechE
MIGEM

WHAT WILL I NEED TO DO WHEN I FINISH STUDYING?

After your studies - develop your competence

This generally involves workplace experience and some further training (also known as professional development) – see UK-SPEC for more information: www.engc.org.uk/ukspec.

You will need evidence from your employer's training and development scheme or from a personal record of how you gained your professional competences. Your engineering institution can assist so let them know you're aiming for professional registration - they could even help you find a mentor.

After gaining experience - professional review

As soon as you feel that you have built your competence to a level where you meet the requirements for IEng or CEng, your institution will help you to prepare for the final stage of your registration application: the professional review.

“ Anyone looking to pursue a career in engineering should seriously consider professional registration. From our clients' point of view, it provides an independent endorsement that the people working on their projects have the necessary skills and that they follow a professional code that endorses high levels of accountability. From an employer's perspective, it gives us increased confidence that the individuals can successfully manage the higher levels of risk that are demanded by our most technically challenging and complex projects. ”

Mark Jones
Director of Group Learning and Development,
Atkins

“ CEng has allowed me to progress beyond contract management and into strategic leadership of technical management. I am currently on the Executive Board of my company and I don't feel I would have achieved this without CEng registration. ”

Greg Markham
CEng FIHEEM
MIET MBIFM

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

There is more information and advice on becoming professionally registered online: www.engc.org.uk/professional-registration

Your first step towards professional registration is joining a professional engineering institution. They may provide membership benefits that will help you with your studies and professional development, and will support you in achieving professional registration. Licensed professional engineering institutions are listed at: www.engc.org.uk/peis

What does the Engineering Council do?

Operating under a Royal Charter, the Engineering Council is the UK regulatory body for the engineering profession. It sets and maintains the internationally recognised standards of professional competence and commitment, which are detailed in UK-SPEC.

The Engineering Council also holds the national register of professional Engineering Technicians (EngTech), Incorporated Engineers (IEng), Chartered Engineers (CEng) and ICT Technicians (ICTTech). The award and retention of these titles ensures that employers, government and wider society - both in the UK and overseas - can have confidence in the knowledge, experience and commitment of engineers and technicians on the register.



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