What can you do with a degree in…
Computer Engineering?

What is Computer Engineering?

It's almost impossible to imagine our contemporary world without computer technology. Almost every facet of our society, whether in industry, health care, or domestic life, is dependent on computers in some form or another, and computer engineers make it all possible. They design and develop the hardware and software systems that have made computers so central to contemporary life.

The work of a computer engineer is grounded in the hardware, from circuits to architecture, but also focuses on operating systems and software.
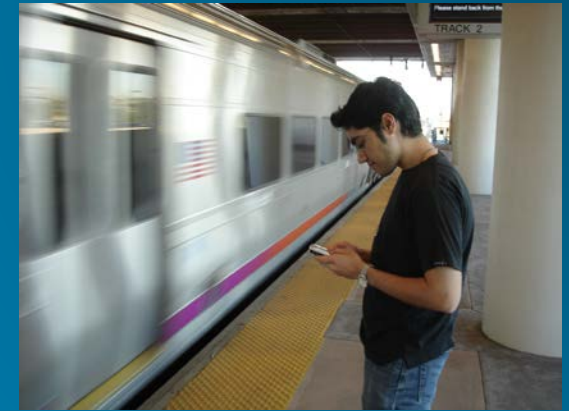
Computer engineers are good in math and physics, have an aptitude for working with computers and enjoy applying their creativity to problem solving. They are also reliable and responsible team players and effective communicators, since they're working as part of a group much of the time.

Where do graduates work?

Computer engineers work in a wide variety of occupations in the high-technology sector, including hardware and software development, telecommunications, robotics, medical technology, and aerospace and in the financial or management consulting industries.

Recent graduates in Computer Engineering have gone on to exciting careers in a wide variety of industries, here a just a few:

CAE, Systems Engineer
Capital One, Process Manager
Environment Canada, Software Developer
Keyence, Technical Sales Executive
Morgan Stanley, Technical Associate
PCO Innovation, Developer
Royal Jordanian Airlines, IT Manager
Teradyne, Software Engineer

Industries

Computer engineers can work in an impressive variety of occupations in the high-technology sector. Computer engineers, or computer hardware engineers, research, design, develop, test, and oversee the manufacture and installation of computer hardware, including computer chips, circuit boards, computer systems, and related equipment.

- Information & Communications Technologies
- Robotics
- Energy & Utilities: Alternative Energy, Hydro, Gas, Water
- Engineering & Management Consulting
- Finance & Insurance
- Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology and Medical Devices
- Scientific and Technical Services
- Transportation

Useful Resources

Career Resources

McGill University's Engineering Career Centre (ECC)
- Resources, information, job postings and links for engineering students

myFuture
- Job postings McGill students

The Engineering Institute of Canada
- Engineering Career Network

Professional Organizations

Engineers Canada
- The national organization of the 12 licensing bodies that regulate the practice of engineering in Canada

Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec
- The regulating body for Engineers in Quebec

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)
- IEEE's core purpose is to foster technological innovation and excellence for the benefit of humanity.

Association for Computing Machinery
- Educational and scientific computing society that delivers resources to advance computing as a science and a profession.

Student Life

There are several student organizations to help ensure that school life maintains a good mix of work and pleasure.

Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS)

Electrical, Computer, & Software Engineering Student Society (ECSESS)
- represents all students in Electrical, Computer and Software Engineering (ECSE)

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) McGill student branch
- Dedicated to the development of professional skills

Promoting Opportunities for Women in Engineering (POWE)

Engineers Without Borders

Student Affairs Office
- Housed in the Engineering Student Centre; Academic Advisors provide assistance and information on program planning and academic success.

Salary Information*

Starting salaries will vary according to location, industry and employer.

Average annual salaries for new graduates
Canada: $46,000 - $62,000
United States: $ 67,800

Internship Salaries
$15 - $26 per hour

Sources include: CACEE Campus Recruitment and Benchmark Survey (2011), NACE Salary Survey 2009, RIQ Enquete sur la rémunération directe des ingénieurs salariés du Québec (2012)

Contact Us

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