Engineering Technician (EngTech) for Undergraduates

Professional Registration

On your degree programme you will have been told about professional registration with the Engineering Council. Your long term aim will be to become an Incorporated Engineer (IEng) or Chartered Engineer (CEng). Many top employers will expect you to have these registrations if you are to progress to a top position. It will be a couple of year's post-graduation before you will be in a position to apply for these professional qualifications.

Get Registered Sooner

Most undergraduates will be following a degree programme which has been accredited by IAgrE or another professional body as having the necessary knowledge and skills development criteria required for professional registration.

If your degree includes a year in industry, when this is combined with the knowledge and skills requirements, it is likely that you will be eligible to apply for professional registration as an Engineering Technician (EngTech) before you graduate.

This grade of registration requires a shorter period of development in the workplace and it is likely that your period in industry meets the requirements.

There is a process you need to follow to become an Engineering Technician and this guidance note will explain what you need to do.

Job Applications and your CV

Get a head start by joining the register of professional engineers before you leave university. It will look good on your CV and could be the difference between you and another job seeker.

What are the Eng Tech Requirements?

All of this is described in the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC). This can be downloaded from www.engc.org.uk or obtained from the IAgrE Membership Department. The requirements are very clear:

- Engineering Technicians apply proven techniques and procedures to the solution of practical engineering problems.
- Engineering Technicians are required to apply safe systems of work and are able to demonstrate:
- Evidence of their contribution to:
  – either the design, development, manufacture, commissioning, decommissioning, operation
  – or the maintenance of products, equipment, processes or services.
- Effective interpersonal skills in communicating technical matters.
- Supervisory or technical responsibility.

This offers a good deal of flexibility so whether your experience is hands on in a workshop or as a field engineer; or if you have been working in test and development, with the design team, or developing support systems and services; there is plenty of flexibility within these standards.

IAgrE Membership

To become a registered Engineering Technician, you must also be a member of a Professional Engineering Institution. At IAgrE we recommend the Technician Grade (TIAgrE).

Turn over for next steps …

To Start With …

It is likely that IAgrE will have a nominated contact at your university who will act on your behalf. They should provide you with the necessary documentation and explain the process in more detail.

This is what you need to do …

1. If you are not sure, get in touch with IAgrE to find out if your degree programme is eligible for an application for registration as an Engineering Technician. The email address is membership@iagre.org.

2. As you approach the end of your industrial placement it is a good idea to start your application. There may be people at your placement who can support your application.

3. Complete the IAgrE Application Form for IAgrE Membership and Engineering Technician (EngTech) Registration. This can be provided by your course tutor or alternatively from the IAgrE membership Department. The email address is membership@iagre.org. (*The reference for the form is Appendix C8 - Application for IAgrE Membership and Engineering Technician (EngTech) Registration*)

4. Complete the form as fully as you can. In addition to personal information and details of your qualifications and work experience, there is a self-assessment tool as well as three sections you need to complete which will give you the opportunity to showcase your skills and experience.

5. The nominated contact at your university will check your application and act as your proposer. This person will have been trained by IAgrE to act as your first stage assessor.

6. The application form gives space for a seconder. This is not essential although there may be a supervisor at your place of work who can complete this thus vouching for you and your skills and experience.

7. Once complete, submit your application form to IAgrE. If you think it would help, please submit additional documents such as certificates and photographs showing examples of your work. All of this helps to support your application.

What happens next …

Your application needs to go through a formal assessment process. This will take up to two months depending upon when you make your application.

Firstly, a member of the IAgrE membership department will check that all of the necessary information has been provided.

Your university based assessor should have checked but if there are gaps, you will be requested to provide further information before your application is processed.

Once the IAgrE Membership Department is content that you have provided sufficient information which meets Engineering Technician requirements, your application will be ratified by the IAgrE Membership Committee which meets every second month.

You will then be informed of the outcome of your application and if successful, you will be able to use the post nominal letters of TIAgrE and EngTech.

What will it cost for this?

As a Student member of IAgrE, EngTech registration will cost £40, a good investment to help kick start your career! Please contact IAgrE for details.

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