

Women in Engineering

A guide for parents and carers

Engineers shape our world. From space travel to life-saving medical devices, engineers work to solve the world's greatest challenges. Engineering is a career that is abundant in opportunity, creativity and innovation.

This guide has been specifically developed for you, a parent or carer, to best support your child as they consider an exciting and rewarding career in engineering.



UQ Women in Engineering

The UQ Women in Engineering (WE) Program was established in 2013 as the first of its kind in Australia, committed to improving gender diversity in engineering.

The program is industry-funded, but university-led, with a goal to increase the number of women choosing engineering as a rewarding and impactful career.

Through the power of education, the WE program has successfully increased the number of women commencing engineering at UQ from 19.4 per cent in 2013, to 27.9 per cent in 2024, making The University of Queensland the university of choice for women studying engineering in Queensland. A career in engineering is rewarding, with great possibilities and career satisfaction.

WE educate and inspire young women to consider a career in engineering, support them through their university experience, and ensure they are adequately prepared and enjoy a smooth transition into an exciting career in industry.

It is essential that engineering teams are diverse in order to enhance innovative solutions and creativity, and WE are proud to be working towards a more equitable balance of gender in our engineering cohort for an industry that is ready.





How will WE support your child?

Hands-on workshops to discover engineering

Many students have not been given the chance to build a rocket, or reflect upon the importance of coastal protection.

Our interactive workshops provide students the opportunity to think like all specialties of engineering, and learn more about these exciting fields.

From building prosthetic limbs to coding a robot to test UV levels, your children get a hands-on, supportive, and inquiry-based learning experiences.

Student leadership roles

Engineering students are given the opportunity to join our WE student leadership team to inspire, encourage and support prospective and current female engineering students.

These student leaders gain professional experience and grow in confidence by leading presentations and workshops at school visits and major events, and are also given the unique opportunity to take part in our industry mentoring program.

Support from day one

Our team supports your child as they transition from high school to university life. As QTAC offers are released, WE call all successful women to congratulate them and answer their questions.

WE pride ourselves on getting to know your child and are genuinely invested in their university experience and career success. WE host engaging events throughout the year to assist in forming study groups and promoting lasting friendships.

Industry connections

The UQ Women in Engineering program is proudly supported by ten industry program partners who are actively involved in supporting and connecting with our cohort of female engineering students.

WE host curated networking events that provide invaluable industry connections. For many of our students, these connections have led to internships and even graduate roles!

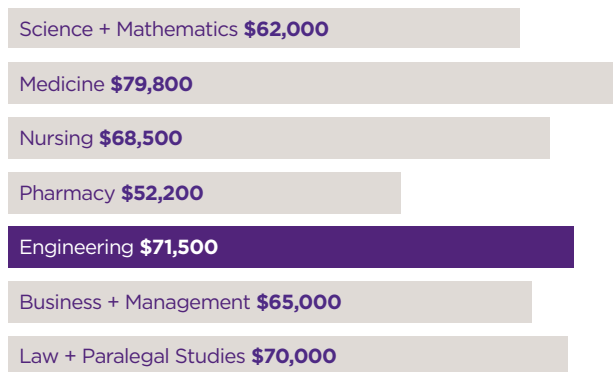


Scan the QR code to hear from a current engineering student.

What is an engineer?

The role of an engineer is to tackle some of the world's biggest challenges. Virtually everything around you has been touched by an engineer. There are many engineering professions, all with one consistent engineering principle: to innovate!

Starting salary by study area*



* Undergraduate full-time median salary Graduate Outcomes Survey 2023
** Women in STEM Decadal Plan, 2019.

Diverse career opportunities

Engineering is an exciting career, with endless job prospects and pathways. Your child will have the opportunity to gain experience across a number of focus areas, roles and industries over their career. They may even choose to travel the world with their degree.

Engineers are in high demand

The demand for innovative and forward-thinking engineers has never been so great. There is currently a significant skills shortage in Australia with the demand for engineers outweighing supply. STEM jobs are being created at 1.5 times the rate of non-STEM jobs.**

Make a difference

A career in engineering can be extremely rewarding. Engineers help to save lives and create new technology that directly improves the quality of life for others. Environmental, social and economic change present complex challenges that will need sustainable and connected solutions. Your child could be a part of changing the world as we know it.

It pays to be an engineer

On top of being a fulfilling and exciting career, engineering is a stable and high-paying profession. Engineering graduates are also in the top five highest paying graduate salaries with a median salary of \$70,000.*



“When I was in year 12, I was unsure what career I wanted to pursue. I loved maths and science, as well as the feeling of accomplishment when I solved a difficult problem. UQ Women in Engineering visited my school and my eyes were opened to the world of engineering and the positive impact I could have on society. The support provided by the WE program has been nothing short of spectacular. I have never looked back since choosing engineering as a career.”

Kathleen Cox

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Chemical)/Master of Engineering
Graduate Process Engineer, Rio Tinto, Perth

Where do engineers work?

Engineers work at the forefront of innovation across established and emerging industries.

Many of the world's future jobs haven't been invented yet. If your child has ambitions to make a difference, improve the lives of others, and change the world as we know it, engineering may be the career for them.



Advanced Manufacturing

Be a part of a growing industry – think manufacturing of food and beverages, natural resources, plastics and automobiles.



Environment

Gain a deeper understanding of our planet and how to protect, manage and maintain the delicate balance of life.



Built Environment

Reimagine urban infrastructure, designing smart sustainable buildings or focusing on people and improving quality of life.



Health

Join the exciting world of biomedical engineering and develop materials, devices and processes that improve and save lives.



Digital Design + Technology

Hone your technological skills, master the digital, and prepare yourself for a lifetime of success in the digital design and technology space.



Resources

Through automation and sustainable processes, build the most environmentally-friendly and productive resource sector we've ever seen.



Sustainable Energy

Tackle our world's global energy challenges. Design new ways to harness and store energy for a sustainable future.



Space

A career in space could be anything from designing and manufacturing aircrafts, satellites and drones, to developing more efficient rockets.



Did you know?

30%

of the most influential CEOs have an engineering degree.

CEOWORLD Magazine, 2024

Engineering at UQ

Our engineering programs are one of the most comprehensive degrees in Australia. They will prepare your child with the skills and knowledge needed to work in both established and emerging engineering disciplines. Our industry-relevant, hands-on and dynamic programs provide a strong foundation in mathematics, science and engineering design, empowering students to meet the demands of the future. Your child will have the confidence and creativity to meet the world's most complex challenges and engineer a better future for us all.

Employability

UQ's dedicated Student Employability Team will work directly with your child to enhance their employability and equip them for lifelong success. Through tailored resources and support, students work to develop the skills and experience needed to stand out to future employers among the competitive graduate employment market.

UQ Scholarships

UQ offers a range of scholarships for all study areas and levels, many of which are dedicated to encouraging and supporting women in engineering! We have one of the most generous offerings in the state, with scholarships that can help with financial support, tuition, accommodation, mentoring and industry experience.

For scholarships and application details visit scholarships.uq.edu.au

World-class facilities

The Engineering, Design and Computing precinct at The University of Queensland is defined by excellence. Our world-class facilities provide students with unparalleled opportunities to further their knowledge, skills and expertise in all facets of their fields. UQ teaching and learning spaces are recognised as international benchmarks for excellence and innovation.

Global Experiences

Your child may choose to include an overseas experience as part of their program. With 120+ exchange partners in 30+ countries, semester-based exchange is an ideal way to combine study and travel. Overseas study will increase your child's employability and will likely be a highlight of their time at university.

UQ Innovate

UQ innovate is a unique makerspace where students and staff can meet, collaborate and create in a friendly and supportive environment. Through state-of-the-art equipment, digital design and collaborative spaces, and access to modern technologies, students are able to bring their ideas and innovations to life.

Clubs and Societies

University isn't just about hitting the books. UQ has a huge range of extra-curricular activities that relate to your child's field of study as well as their interests and hobbies such as dancing, language, sport, politics and so much more!

UQ Ventures

Through Ventures, UQ supports entrepreneurs to generate and action ideas in response to identified needs and opportunities. This includes building creative problem solving, design thinking, negotiation, communication and leadership skills that may be applied within an existing organisation, or in the creation of a new one.



Find out what it's really like to study engineering at UQ.
Scan the QR code.



Student and teacher working in UQ Innovate, St Lucia campus.



Andrew N. Liveris Building

In the heart of UQ's Engineering, Design and Computing Precinct at St Lucia stands the Andrew N. Liveris Building.

At 11 storeys high, this building is the tallest building on UQ's St Lucia campus, and is home to the School of Chemical Engineering, supporting researchers and students to address global challenges in areas such as energy, water and sustainable manufacturing.

Your child will have access to world-class experimental laboratories and learning spaces, as well as fit-for-purpose equipment.



Take a walk around the Engineering precinct and explore some of the classrooms, labs and workshops where our students learn.

What can your child study?

UQ offers two programs that place your child at the forefront of engineering in 2024, 2034 and beyond. Students benefit from a flexible first year with hands-on experiences across all aspects of engineering, more study options for greater career opportunities, and direct contact with industry and future employers – threaded throughout their degree.

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)

As society advances, we need engineers to solve problems and bring ideas into reality. A degree to change the world, the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) is designed to prepare students for the jobs of the future and an exciting engineering career addressing some of the key challenges of the 21st century. Students develop technical skills through a core specialisation which will form the basis of their career as an engineer.

Entry Requirements

4 years full-time (or part-time equivalent)

Entry Requirements

QLD Year 12 (or equivalent) English, Mathematical Methods, and one of Chemistry or Physics

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)/ Master of Engineering

This integrated program is designed to give students the competitive edge they need to make their mark on any industry, with added specialist knowledge to propel their career as an engineer of the future. Students complete an additional full-time placement with industry or a research institution in Australia or overseas, and undertake a supervised master's thesis on a relevant topic.

Entry Requirements

5 years full-time (or part-time equivalent)

Entry Requirements

QLD Year 12 (or equivalent) English, Mathematical Methods, and one of Chemistry or Physics



Engineering and Technology Ranked 1st in Queensland

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023









UQ Women in Engineering Student Leaders

More study options for greater career opportunities

UQ is home to the largest number of engineering study options in Queensland, with 6 core specialisations, 12 majors and 3 minors to choose from.

Our broad range of majors allows your child to further tailor their studies to match their career aspirations and deep dive into their interests, all while preparing them for the jobs of the future in new and emerging areas of engineering.

Engineering provides career flexibility. Students gain the technical expertise, confident critical thinking, and research skills to take on any role, no matter what their future holds.

SPECIALISATIONS	 CHEMICAL	 CIVIL	 ELECTRICAL	 MECHANICAL	 MECHATRONIC	 SOFTWARE
MAJORS						
Aerospace				✓		
Biomedical	✓		✓	✓		
Bioprocess	✓					
Computer			✓		✓	✓
Environmental	✓	✓				
Geotechnical		✓				
Materials	✓			✓		
Metallurgical	✓					
Mining		✓		✓	✓	
Structural		✓				
Transport		✓				
Water & Marine		✓				
MINORS						
Computing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Data Science	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Design	✓	✓	✓			✓

A degree that fits your child's ambitions

Dual degrees allow students to pursue their interests, and broaden their employment prospects by studying two degrees at the same time, for less time.

As the world around us changes, new and fascinating career opportunities are created and job roles increasingly combine multiple disciplines.

Dual degrees help students to adapt in a changing world with the flexibility and skills to flourish in emerging markets and non-linear careers.

They'll save time and money by completing two degrees at once. Our dual degrees are designed to take 5.5 years full-time for engineering, compared to 6 or 8 years for two single degrees.

Dual degrees are also highly regarded by employers and can give your child the competitive edge in the job market.

Dual Degrees available with the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours):

- Arts
- Biotechnology
- Business Management
- Commerce
- Computer Science
- Design
- Economics
- Information Technology
- Mathematics
- Science

Common questions...

“I’ve never visited UQ.”

Engineering is taught at our vibrant St Lucia Campus. You’ll find modern teaching and research facilities, including laboratories, lecture theatres and study spaces, along with a variety of sporting facilities, museums, cafes, and those famous Jacaranda trees.

Want to see it for yourself? Visit our campuses without leaving home on uq.youtour.com.au or book a personal tour with the WE team for you and your child. Email us at we@eait.uq.edu.au

“Would I be a good engineer if I don’t love maths and science?”

Maths and science are important skills for engineers, however, the chosen specialisation will determine how much is used throughout the degree. A ‘good’ engineer combines many skills including technical proficiency, creative problem solving, and the ability to communicate well.

“Are their scholarships available at UQ?”

UQ offers hundreds of scholarships for students commencing university, as well as throughout their degree once they’ve chosen a specialisation.

With some scholarships valued up to \$60,000, it’s worth taking the time to research what you can apply for! Visit scholarships.uq.edu.au

“I don’t know what specialisation to choose.”

In your child’s first year of engineering, they will take part in UQ’s Flexible First Year. During this year, they will study foundation courses that introduce them to the way professional engineers think and work, combined with engineering practice courses involving engineering design, physical prototyping and modelling. Your child will have the opportunity to try everything, discover their passion and choose their area of specialisation based on experience.

“What if I don’t have the right pre-requisites?”

If your child hasn’t completed Mathematical Methods and one of Chemistry or Physics, there are multiple pathway options available to them at UQ. Visit study.uq.edu.au and navigate to the ‘Consider your pathways’ page for more information.

“How long is an engineering degree?”

UQ’s Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) is 4 years full-time. Students may also choose to integrate this with a Master of Engineering which adds an additional year to their study (5 years full-time study).

“I don’t know what I want to study, but I want to make a difference in the world.”

Engineers shape our world and innovation is at the heart of everything that they do. From space travel to renewable energy; from medical instruments to self-driving electric cars, engineers find innovative solutions to our problems, and we rely on them to provide their expertise and creativity across all industries.

“Are there jobs in engineering and will I be hired after graduation?”

Our entire world has been shaped by engineers, and we need them in every industry. Australia is currently facing a significant skills shortage in engineering, which means engineers are in high demand! This is the perfect time to enter into this career path. See page 4 of this guide for more information.

“What do I do if I didn’t get the ATAR I needed?”

If your child didn’t receive the required ATAR, we offer a range of pathways to help them on their way. Visit study.uq.edu.au and navigate to the ‘Consider your pathways’ page for more information.

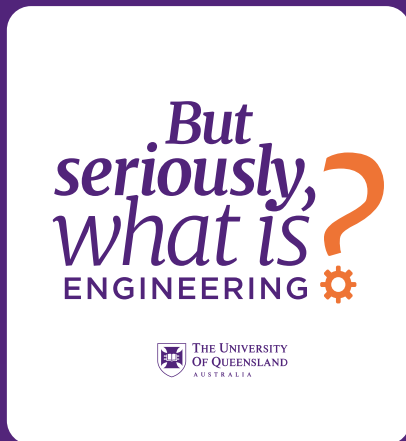


“I love that with engineering, the roles and industries you can work in are endless! There are so many opportunities for career change and development which is really appealing to me. I chose engineering specifically because I’ve always had a really strong interest in the health industry and the medical applications of science.”

Amorita Combis

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Chemical and Biological)
Graduate Safety and Risk Engineer, Advisian, Brisbane

Additional resources for you and your child...



Scan to hear directly from women studying engineering at The University of Queensland!

They talk to industry professionals and educators from across the engineering sector and ask the big questions that explore all corners of engineering, from the microscope to the mine site.



Scan for our 'Careers in Engineering' Booklet.

This is a great resource for anyone that wants to learn more about the exciting opportunities and careers available in engineering.



Scan the QR code for our Engineering, Design, Computing, Architecture and Planning study guide.

This is a comprehensive study guide that covers all specialisations and study options for the following year.




Proudly supported by our program partners





Have a question about programs in this Guide?

Faculty of Engineering,
Architecture and
Information Technology

+61 7 3365 4777 | enquiries@eait.uq.edu.au
eait.uq.edu.au

 UQ Engineering and Technology

 [uqengtech](https://www.instagram.com/uqengtech)

 UQ Engineering and Computing

Want to contact the UQ Women in Engineering team?

UQ Women in Engineering

+61 7 3443 1654 | we@eait.uq.edu.au
eait.uq.edu.au/we

 [womenin_engineering](https://www.instagram.com/womenin_engineering)

Have a question about living and studying at UQ?

Contact the Future Students
Contact Centre

+61 7 3346 9872 | ask@uq.edu.au
study.uq.edu.au

Have a question about entry requirements and admission to UQ?

Contact UQ Admissions

+61 7 3365 2203 | admissions@uq.edu.au
study.uq.edu.au/admissions