# **Civil Engineering** by Apprenticeship

Bachelor of Engineering in **Civil Engineering** (Level 7) Higher Certificate in **Civil Engineering** (Level 6)









ACEI ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS OF IRELAND













The Level 6 and Level 7 in Civil Engineering by Apprenticeship programmes are delivered on the ATU Sligo campus, ATU Galway City campus and MTU Bishopstown campus.

For Ireland to meet its commitments to Project Ireland 2040, Housing for All, and the Climate Action Plan, the number of people within the profession needs to significantly increase. With shortages of Civil Engineers across the industry, this new suite of Civil Engineering apprenticeships was designed to meet this demand.

If you enjoy working as part of a team, are interested in maths and science and enjoy finding solutions to problems, a career in Civil Engineering could be for you. Projects you will be involved in include the design and construction of civilian infrastructure, from buildings such as hospitals and schools, to transportation and utilities networks.

## What is a Civil Engineer?

- Civil Engineers tackle global environmental problems like climate change and pollution.
- Civil Engineers transform lives by designing and building safe structures and providing essential life-giving services.
- Civil Engineers create and shape the world, making it work for us all
- Civil Engineers take part in disaster relief efforts, helping those in need worldwide.

## What do Civil Engineers do?

- Environmental Engineers prevent, detect, reduce, and eliminate pollutants in water, soil, and air.
- Hydrology and Water Resources Engineers manage and transport water.
- Transportation Engineers design, construct, and maintain transportation infrastructure.
- Construction Engineers plan and manage the construction process.
- Geotechnical Engineers study soil properties and secure the foundation of structures.
- Structural Engineers design and maintain safe structures such as bridges and buildings.

## As a Civil Engineer, where will I work?

Civil engineers are employed across the following sub-sectors of the construction industry:

- Government agencies and Local Authorities.
- Consulting Engineers
  supporting clients in planning, designing and managing construction projects.
- Civil Engineering Contractors constructing assets e.g. buildings, roads, bridges, energy supplies and utilities networks.
- Specialist Suppliers providing specialist materials and products to contractors.

## Why should I choose this apprenticeship?

- You have an interest in practical and hands on learning.
- Earn while you Learn Apprenticeship model Gain your qualification while earning a full-time income.
- Practical Learning and a Flexible Schedule: Apprentices work 4 days a week in paid employment, gaining valuable industry experience. They attend online lectures one day per week and also attend campus one day per month for labs/workshops.
- Excellent employment prospects in a varied and exciting industry. Civil engineering is an industry where there are more jobs than people!

## Is it for me?

- At least 18 years of age (or within 6 months of programme start)
- Hold a QQI Level 5 (Leaving Cert or equivalent).
- An interest in Mathematics and problem solving.
- Pass Grade in Maths at Level 5 (or equivalent).
- Interest in Civil Engineering and the built environment.
- Solid literacy, verbal, and numeracy skills.

- Ability to plan and prepare work.
- Good analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Good computer skills.
- Good interpersonal skills.
- Safety focused.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.

## **Approved Employers**

The first step in securing a place on the Civil Engineering apprenticeship is to gain employment with a SOLASapproved employer. You can view the current list of SOLAS-approved Civil Engineering Apprenticeship employers in your region / county on the **'Find Apprenticeship Employers'** section of the Generation Apprenticeship website.

If a company is not listed as an approved employer please contact civilapprenticeships@atu.ie

## Find out who's hiring!

#### 1. Generation Apprenticeship website (www.apprenticeship.ie)

Visit the Generation Apprenticeship website to find apprenticeship opportunities. Companies recruiting Civil Engineering apprentices will advertise positions in the **"Apprenticeship Jobs"** section of the website.

#### 2. Approach SOLAS-Approved Civil Engineering Employers Directly

- Research these companies and create a list of Civil Engineering firms in your area that interest you.
- Visit Company Websites: Go to the careers or jobs section of their websites to check for apprenticeship vacancies. Express your interest in an apprenticeship and enquire if they are accepting applications or would be willing to take you on.

#### **3. Monitor Job Portals**

Search "Civil Engineering Apprentice" vacancies on jobs portals including:

- www.irishjobs.ie
- www.indeed.ie
- www.jobs.ie

When applying, ensure your **CV** and **cover letter** are tailored to the company. Highlight your passion for civil engineering, showcase relevant skills and qualifications, and express your enthusiasm for the apprenticeship programme. Additionally, prepare for your interview by researching the company and role, and approach the interview with confidence and openness.

## **Student Testimonials**



### Kate Gaffrey BEng in Civil Engineering

After completing my Leaving Certificate, I received a CAO offer to study engineering at university however, after careful consideration, I decided to take the apprenticeship route instead. I knew that hands-on experience in the construction industry was highly rated and I chose to do the BEng in Civil Engineering by Apprenticeship because it is focused on giving students the skills needed for industry.

Having job security and a consistent salary, as well as the high employment rate from the programme really appealed to me. As part of the apprentice programme, I enjoy working with new people and constantly learning. I have received great support from the university, colleagues at work and from the other apprentices on the course. To do an apprenticeship you need to be determined and self-motivated. I highly recommend this programme.

#### Ben Murnane BEng in Civil Engineering

Choosing the civil engineering apprenticeship was the best decision I made for my future. Unlike the traditional route, this programme offered me the perfect balance of hands-on experience and academic learning, all while getting paid! Since I've always had an interest in mathematics and mechanics, civil engineering was the perfect fit.

One of the biggest advantages of the apprenticeship is the ability to apply what you learn immediately. When I studied something in college, I could put it into practice the next week in my job. This made studying easier, as I could see real-world applications of my coursework and even contribute to projects early on.

The flexibility of online classes made learning even more accessible. My company allowed me to attend classes from home, which was really convenient. Plus, I enjoyed the trips to campus every few weeks for lab work and the in-person experience around exam times—it gave me the best of both worlds!

Another great aspect is the opportunity for career progression. The apprenticeship allows me to achieve a Level 6 or 7 degree, with the option to advance to Level 8. This means I can keep progressing or finish after two years with a valuable qualification.

## **Contact us**

For further information, please email: civilapprenticeships@atu.ie

Additional information on the Civil Engineering Apprenticeship programmes can be found on the ATU and MTU websites.

#### www.atu.ie www.mtu.ie www.apprenticeship.ie

