

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & SCIENCE

INDUSTRIAL WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR ENGINEERING DEGREES

Students enrolled in a Bachelor of Engineering course are required to undertake compulsory practical experience during the course to qualify for graduation.

The purpose of such experience is to provide students with exposure to professional practice outside of the educational setting and an appreciation of a professional work environment. Upon completion of the work experience, students are required to submit a Certificate for Industrial Experience and a reflection report.

To comply with the rules for work experience and to confirm graduation, your work experience must satisfy the following criteria:

1. For students in the 4-year engineering program, at least **12 weeks** of work experience consisting of at least **6 weeks** of engineering placement working under the **supervision of a professional engineer**. For students in the 3-year engineering program, at least **8 weeks** of work experience consisting of at least **4 weeks** of engineering placement working under the **supervision of a professional engineer**. The remaining weeks can constitute other forms of general work experience. General work experience will have some technical or innovative scope or be in a leadership or supervisory role working with others.
2. The engineering placement does not have to be from the student's study discipline but it is preferred. For example, an electrical engineering student can undertake a placement in a civil or mechanical engineering environment.
3. Students are expected to independently find their own placements as part of their preparation for seeking employment. Work experience may be claimed from formal paid employment. However, companies are not required to pay the students for work placements.
4. Engineering projects taken in the course of the student's study (i.e. final year projects), where students are based at an industry location, may qualify as work experience.
5. Engineering-related placements that have been approved by the College will be covered by University Indemnity Insurance for local placements only (overseas, unapproved or non-engineering placements are not covered). Request for approval of placements can be made to the College Industry and Community Liaison Coordinator. A statement of insurance cover can be obtained from the College Industry and Community Liaison Coordinator by emailing engineering.work.experience@vu.edu.au.
6. Upon completion of the work experience, students are required to submit the following documentations for assessment:
 1. A Certificate for industrial experience signed by the employer of the tasks which were undertaken during work experience. You will be required to submit one Certificate per placement.
 2. A report by the student on the experience reflecting on what they have learned about the engineering workplace, how engineers act as well as what they have learned about their preparedness to engineering work. It is not intended to be a technical or engineering report. It is expected these reports will be approximately 1000 words, or 2 pages, in length, will be typed and written in professional language. A

For any further questions relating to the practical work experience, please email engineering.work.experience@vu.edu.au.