

Engineering & Architecture

Ara Pūhanga
me te Hoahoanga



Engineering

Become a technically savvy innovator with the expertise to change the way the world works.

Engineering is an exciting career option that suits practical people with enquiring minds and the ingenuity to find practical and cost-effective solutions to technical problems. It's also a hugely diverse and dynamic area with exciting opportunities to invent, collaborate and make a difference – potentially on a global scale.

We focus on practical and applied engineering with the aim of preparing you for a diverse spectrum of employment opportunities, both in New Zealand and overseas. You can be confident that your qualification gives employers a clear signal that you have the skills, knowledge and practical experience needed to be effective in the workplace from day one.



Scan to learn more about our Engineering courses



New Zealand Diploma in Engineering



Level 6



Christchurch



Full-time: two years

Part-time: up to five years



February, July*

Gain the skills and knowledge needed to work as an engineering technician.

With an emphasis on sound thinking and problem-solving skills, this diploma has been designed in conjunction with industry to meet the needs of the New Zealand engineering sector.

Available in four specialties (civil, mechanical, electrical and electronics), it includes core and elective courses focused on the design and implementation of engineering technology.

You'll gain a solid grounding in engineering theory and the principles of engineering science. You'll also acquire skills, knowledge and hands-on experience relating to your specialty.

**Electrical and electronic specialisations start in February only*

Bachelor of Engineering Technology



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years
Part-time: up to 10 years



February, July*

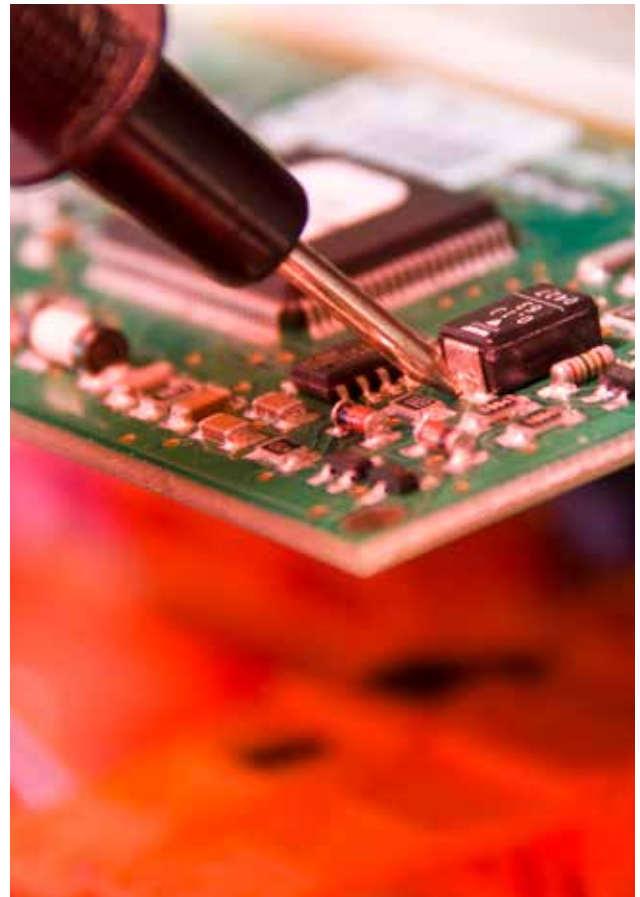
Prepare for an exciting career in engineering design and development.

Our Bachelor of Engineering Technology is a three-year degree available in three specialties: civil, mechanical and electrical. It's fully accredited by Engineering New Zealand and is recognised internationally under the Sydney Accord.

In your first year of study, you'll develop core engineering skills in computing, mathematics, management and the engineering sciences, plus some discipline-specific topics. This forms the foundation upon which you'll build your degree. Critical thinking, problem solving, and innovation will be a key part of your success.

In your second and third years you'll continue to deepen your understanding in your specialist area and engage in projects that allow you to apply your knowledge. You'll undertake an industry-related capstone project which may be sponsored by a local or international business. This offers the chance to test your skills against industry standards in a real-world scenario, while building your professional portfolio and developing important industry contacts.

**Electrical specialisation starts in February only*



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements and fee information.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts

Construction Management and Quantity Surveying

Excel in the construction industry with sought-after expertise.

Skilled professionals are needed up and down the country to work on residential, commercial, industrial and infrastructure projects. Taught by experts, our programmes in construction management and quantity surveying can equip you to make a significant contribution in the construction industry.



Scan to learn more about our Construction Management and Quantity Surveying courses



New Zealand Diploma in Construction



Level 6



Christchurch



Full-time: two years
Part-time: available



February, July

Gain the specialist skills needed for a career in construction management or quantity surveying.

This programme offers specialisations in construction management and quantity surveying. It will equip you with the essential skills and knowledge needed to work in either discipline, on both residential and commercial building projects.

The construction management specialty covers the skills required at all stages of building projects, from conception to completion, with an emphasis on building technology, communication and health and safety. Other relevant vocational skills covered include planning, methodology and site management, procurement, programming and financial administration of contracts.

The quantity surveying specialty covers the monetary aspect of construction projects, from initial concept to final completion, including measuring, estimating and cost planning. Other important skills covered are procurement and financial administration of contracts as well as building technology and programming

Work experience components are included in the second year of the programme for full-time students.

Bachelor of Construction



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years
Part-time: up to eight years



February, July

Specialise in quantity surveying or construction management and become a sought-after construction industry professional.

The Bachelor of Construction offers two specialisations: construction management and quantity surveying. It's designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge needed to work at a high level in the construction industry, as a leader who's able to innovate and contribute to new ways of creating the built environment.

The programme starts with an introduction to the knowledge, skills, attributes and academic abilities required of a construction manager or quantity surveyor. You'll gain discipline-specific skills and knowledge, starting with a focus on small domestic buildings and moving on to low-rise and large commercial construction, followed by heavily serviced, multi-faceted projects.

Your year-three project work and assessments will require problem solving, independent research skills and application of cultural approaches and aspects of sustainability. Also in your third year, you'll be required to source and organise technical, project and academic research information, and evaluate, critique and propose well-rationalised solutions.

Graduate Diploma in Construction Management



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: one year
Part-time: up to four years



February, July

Expand your knowledge and skills for senior roles in the construction industry.

Designed to enhance your existing knowledge and skills in the construction industry, this programme will equip you with specialised construction management skill sets.

It will enable you to perform with a strong sense of responsibility for your own practice and to be capable of effectively collaborating with other construction-related disciplines. During the programme you'll extend your technical, applied and legal knowledge and critically review practice within the construction industry.

You'll also learn how to improve the productivity of construction projects and advise on construction methodology through the life cycle of a project. An industry project will allow you to apply your research and critical thinking skills.



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements and fee information.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts

Graduate Diploma in Quantity Surveying



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: one year
Part-time: up to four years



February, July

Develop your quantity surveying skills for a rapidly evolving industry.

This programme is designed to enhance your knowledge and skills in quantity surveying by equipping you with specialised occupation skill sets. It will enable you to perform with a strong sense of responsibility for your own practice and to be capable of effectively collaborating with other construction-related disciplines.

During the programme you'll extend your technical, applied and legal knowledge and critically review practice within the construction industry. You'll also learn how to provide strategic, budgetary and financial advice on development options through the life cycle of a construction project, and how to apply elements of construction economic theory to provide advice on the risks and uncertainty associated with cost-related project outcomes.

An industry project will allow you to apply your research and critical thinking skills.



Architectural Studies

Create a career shaping the buildings we live, work and come together in.

Whether you choose to study architectural studies or interior design, our team of industry professionals will inspire, guide and support you to achieve your study goals.

You'll gain the technical capabilities required for industry, learn about the variety of solutions that can be applied to design challenges, and discover how excellent visual, oral and written communication can help smooth a project's way. Your tutors will also connect you with their industry contacts to enhance your abilities through real-world workplace experience.



Scan to learn more about our Architectural Studies courses



New Zealand Diploma in Interior Design



Level 5



Christchurch



Full-time: one year

Part-time: up to four years



February



Turn your talent for design into a career in the dynamic world of residential interior design.

With this programme you'll study both the theory and practical aspects of interior design, and learn about light and colour, design principles, materials and finishes, lighting, soft furnishings, window treatments, ergonomic principles, New Zealand art and cultural/historical influences in interior design.

You'll also learn about architectural communication, building codes, laws and regulations, personal and business presentation, and business management. In addition, you'll develop your freehand drawing and manual drafting abilities, and learn how to use software such as Computer Aided Design and Photoshop. Your studies will include work-integrated learning in industry, and you'll participate in a public exhibition of your work alongside your fellow students.

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements and fee information.

New Zealand Diploma in Architectural Technology



Level 6



Christchurch



Full-time: two years
Part-time: up to five years



February, July

Contribute to the shape of our built environment as an architectural technician.

This programme will equip you with the essential knowledge and skills required to enter the architectural field as a technician working on domestic and commercial building projects.

You'll learn how to produce working drawings and documentation for small and medium scale projects that meet with the requirements of New Zealand legislation, codes of practice and New Zealand and Australian standards. The emphasis is on building technology, sound construction detailing and communication.

Bachelor of Architectural Studies



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years
Part-time: up to five years



February

Add technical skills and knowledge to your creative abilities for a career in architectural design.

During the first two years of your degree, we'll take you through foundation studies in drawing and design, computer-aided design, architectural design and related technologies. You'll also study building legislation and codes as they relate to architecture.

You'll spend about 40 hours a week in practical workshops, lectures and undertaking your own independent research and practice.

In your final year you'll learn about industrial practice laws for architecture, and you'll participate in EXIT, a showcase of student work which embeds architecture in context with city making.

Graduate Certificate in Building Information Modelling



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: six months
Part-time: up to five years



February

Be part of the future of construction, architecture and civil engineering.

As a methodology, Building Information Modelling (BIM) makes a significant contribution to the efficient design, construction and use of buildings. It's used by individuals, businesses and government agencies who plan, design, construct, operate and maintain diverse physical structures.

This programme—developed in response to industry demand for BIM-qualified team members—is a perfect professional development opportunity for anyone with a degree (or degree-equivalent qualification) in construction management, quantity surveying, architecture, civil engineering or facilities management. It provides a broad understanding of Building Information Modelling and can lead to roles such as BIM coordinator and BIM Manager.

Graduate Diploma in Building Information Modelling



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: one year
Part-time: up to two years



February, July

Become an in-demand leader in construction, architecture and civil engineering.

This qualification builds on the four foundational courses within the Graduate Certificate in Building Information Modelling. It will provide you with higher-level learning in construction-related fields, plus give you the opportunity to apply your knowledge to an industry-negotiated, applied BIM project.

It can lead to roles such as BIM lead, BIM specialist and BIM/CAD engineer or designer. Upon completion of the programme, you'll be ready to make an immediate impact in the construction industry and lead the way in driving innovation and efficiency.



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements and fee information.

Notes

**Come and see us at one
of our main engagement
events in 2025/2026.**

Christchurch Careers Expo 2025

Wolfbrook Arena, Addington
May

June Open Day 2025

All Christchurch & Timaru campuses
June

Summer Open Day 2026

City, Woolston and Timaru campuses
January

For details see

ara.ac.nz

Apply now

ara.ac.nz

info@ara.ac.nz

0800 24 24 76

City campus

130 Madras Street, Christchurch
Mon–Fri, 8am–4.30pm

Manawa campus

276 Antigua Street, Christchurch
Mon–Fri, 8.30am–4.30pm

Woolston campus

Ensors Road, Christchurch
Mon–Fri, 8am–4.30pm

Timaru campus

32 Arthur Street, Timaru
Mon–Fri 8am–4.30pm

Ashburton campus

37 Alford Forest Road, Ashburton
Mon–Fri, 8.30am–4.30pm

Oamaru campus

44 Humber Street, Oamaru
Mon–Fri, 8am–4.30pm

Ara Connect

City campus, Madras Street, Christchurch
Timaru Campus, 32 Arthur Street, Timaru
Woolston Campus, Ensors Road, Christchurch

