

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL PROVIDER GUIDE.

Institution of
**MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS**

A Guide for Universities and
Apprenticeship Providers

Issue one

Improving the world through engineering

imeche.org

This guide has been produced by the Young Members Board

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Introduction

Welcome to the IMechE's University and Apprenticeship Guide. This guide has been produced by the IMechE's Young Members Board (YMB) for use by all Higher Education Providers (Universities or Apprenticeship Providers) to inform them on the support opportunities available through the IMechE.

Whether you're an Educational Institution who already engage with the IMechE or have never worked with the IMechE before, this guide is here to provide a list of all of the beneficial support that the IMechE can provide Education Providers. The Institution of Mechanical Engineers is proud to showcase a wide range of successful event formats, awards, extra-curricular learning, membership tiers and practical tips that can help Education Providers give students or apprentices the skills they require upon graduation of their course/scheme.

Inside, you'll find examples of events, learning opportunities, awards, competitions, and memberships all designed to aid young engineers gain the skills they require for real-world jobs.

We hope this guide helps set a clear set of benefits that Educational Providers can gain by working with the IMechE.

Together we can help craft the future engineers the world needs.

Young Members Board (YMB)

The YMB is the highest Young Member community within the IMechE, and serves Young members in a number of ways:

- Providing a medium for Young Members to represent other Young Members,
- Review issues which affect the profession,
- Providing a communication channel for Young Members,
- Holding training days and designing resource materials for Young Members,
- Liaising with the Young Members of other professional Engineering Institutions (PEIs) both UK-based and International,
- Promoting Continuous Professional Development (CPD),
- Lobbying for change both within and external to the IMechE,
- Supporting the Young Members across all Regions, Divisions and Groups.

The YMB is a proactive and motivated community within the Institution, every year it spearheads a variety of projects aligned with the IMechE's strategic objectives. These projects have included the CHAIN series of cross PEI seminars for young engineers and the Great Events Guide.

Find out more about the YMB at www.imeche.org/YMB-Board.

Why have we created this guide?

The Young Members Board is committed to offering students and apprentices as much support and as many opportunities as possible. To help achieve this, we have brought together a comprehensive list of activities available through the IMechE webpage. By keeping everything in one place, this document makes it easier for Universities and Apprenticeship Providers to understand what they can offer their students through the IMechE.

This guide is designed to:

- Help educational providers clearly see the full range of IMechE opportunities available for students and apprentices
- Support tutors, mentors, and coordinators by giving them a simple resource they can share with learners
- Make it easier to signpost activities, competitions, and professional development pathways
- Reduce the time spent searching the IMechE website by presenting all key opportunities in one accessible document
- Encourage more students and apprentices to engage with the Institution through structured and easy to understand information

Finding your local committee

Both Local Area Panels and Young Member Panels play an important role within the IMechE, but they have distinct purposes and audiences. Local Area Panels bring together members from across all career stages, including experienced and professionally registered engineers, to organise technical events, industry visits, networking opportunities, and engagement with the wider engineering community.

Young Member Panels focus specifically on supporting students, apprentices, graduates, and early career engineers. Typically, Young Members are those who have not yet achieved Chartered Engineer status or are within ten years of becoming Chartered. These panels organise career development activities, peer networking, mentoring opportunities, and events tailored to those at the beginning of their professional journey.

By engaging with both Local Area and Young Member Panels, educational institutions can provide their staff, students and apprentices with access to experienced engineering professionals while also helping them build connections with peers who are navigating similar career pathways.

Find your local network here: <https://www.imeche.org/get-involved/near-you>

Divisions/special interest groups

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers organises its technical activity into a series of industry sectors and specialist divisions. These groups bring together engineers working in similar fields, support professional development, share research and best practice, and help shape the Institution's thought leadership. They also run events, publish insights, and provide opportunities for members to collaborate across disciplines.

Below is the full list of sectors featured on the IMechE Industries and Specialisms page.

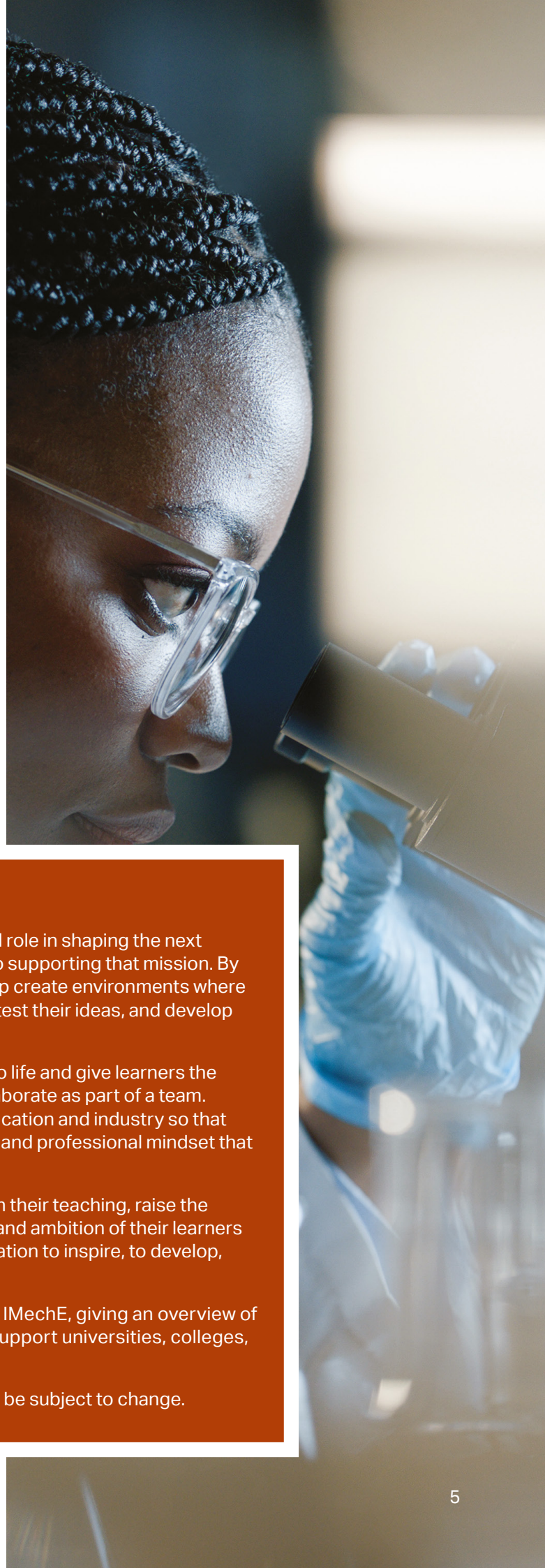
- Aerospace
- AI
- Automotive
- Biomedical Engineering
- Construction and Building Services
- Energy
- Environment and Sustainability
- Fluid Machinery
- Management
- Manufacturing
- Mechatronics, Informatics and Control
- Power and Energy
- Powertrain Systems and Fuels
- Pressure Systems
- Process
- Railway
- Safety and Reliability
- Structural Technology and Materials
- Thermofluids
- Tribology

To find out more about the IMechE's divisions and special interest groups visit <https://www.imeche.org/industry-sectors>.

About the Guide

This guide has been split into sections covering the different types of events:

- Institutional Competitions
- Education Provider Partner Schemes
- Scholarships and Awards
- Memberships
- Student Chapters
- Educational Staff Guidance
- Career Guidance and Support
- Events, Volunteering and Extra-Curricular Learning
- Templates



Foreword

Universities and apprenticeship providers play a vital role in shaping the next generation of engineers, and IMechE is committed to supporting that mission. By working with educators and training partners, we help create environments where students and apprentices can stretch their abilities, test their ideas, and develop the confidence that comes from real experience.

IMechE offers opportunities that bring engineering to life and give learners the chance to think practically, solve problems, and collaborate as part of a team. These experiences help bridge the gap between education and industry so that students and apprentices gain the skills, awareness, and professional mindset that employers look for.

By engaging with IMechE, institutions can strengthen their teaching, raise the profile of their programmes, and highlight the talent and ambition of their learners within the wider engineering community. It is an invitation to inspire, to develop, and to celebrate future engineers.

This guidance outlines the opportunities offered by IMechE, giving an overview of the institution's flagship events and activities that support universities, colleges, and apprenticeship providers.

Note that some items included in this document may be subject to change.

Part 1

Institution Competitions



Formula Student

IMechE Formula Student (FS) is Europe's most established educational engineering competition, tasking teams to design, build and race a single-seater race car.

Backed by industry and high-profile engineers, the competition aims to develop enterprising and innovative young engineers and encourage more young people to take up a career in engineering, with over 100 university teams taking part every year.

The project usually forms part of a degree-level project and is viewed by the motorsport industry as the standard for engineering graduates to meet, transitioning them from university to the workplace. It is a kite-mark for real-world engineering experience, combining practical engineering experience with soft skills including business planning and project management.

For further information on how to get involved please follow the below link:



www.imeche.org/events/formula-student



formulastudent@imeche.org



Railway Challenge

The Railway Challenge, led by our Railway Division, gives teams of students, apprentices, and industry entrants a fantastic chance to test themselves in a demanding, sector focused competition. It is a platform where participants can demonstrate their engineering skill, technical understanding, creativity, and business awareness while working on a real, operational railway system.

Teams are to assume that they work for a design consultancy producing a design proposal and a prototype for a small locomotive for a large corporation.

The Challenge is to design and manufacture the prototype of this locomotive and then test this against prototypes manufactured by the other teams.

For further information on how to get involved please follow the below link:



www.imeche.org/events/challenges/railway-challenge



railwaychallenge@imeche.org



Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Challenge

Launched in 2014, the UAS Challenge is now a highly anticipated event attracting teams from across the UK and around the world.

Teams of undergraduates from all over the world take part in the Challenge. They undertake a full design and build cycle of a UAS with a specified maximum take off mass to undertake specific mission objectives. The system will be required to operate automatically, performing a series of tasks such as area search, navigating waypoints, accurately dropping the Aid Package and returning to base via a defined route. The competition is split into design, development and demonstration stages and culminates with the flying demonstration and business case presentations which contribute to final scoring.

For further information on how to get involved please follow the below link:



www.imeche.org/events/challenges/uas-challenge



uaschallenge@imeche.org



Design Challenge

The Design Challenge gives students from universities and university technical colleges (UTCs) a taste of 'real world' engineering, challenging them to design, create, present and run a device to a strict technical specification.

The Challenge is open to teams of 3-6 students from universities or UTCs. Teams in the UK will compete in regional competitions, leading to a national final for the regional winners, hosted at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers' London HQ at the start of the following academic year.

For further information on how to get involved please follow the below link:



www.imeche.org/events/challenges/design-challenge



designchallenge@imeche.org



Apprentice Automation

The Apprentice Automation Challenge provides a brilliant opportunity for talented apprentices to compete in an innovative design and manufacturing challenge to automate an everyday device.

Organised by the Institution's Manufacturing Industries Division's Young Members Committee, it engages with teams of apprentice engineers to design, develop and build a fully working system that solves a real-world problem.

For further information on how to get involved please follow the below link:



www.imeche.org/events/challenges/aac-challenge



aac.challenge@imeche.org



Speak Out for Engineering

Speak Out for Engineering (SOFE) is an annual presentation competition run by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) Young Members' Network. Established in 1964, its aim is to challenge young engineers, such as students and apprentices, to communicate effectively about technical subjects. Competitors deliver a timed oral presentation on a mechanical engineering topic, followed by some time for questions from the judging panel. The majority of marks are awarded for presentation skills and minimal is for technical content, so clarity and engagement are key.

For further information on how to get involved please follow the below link:



<https://www.imeche.org/get-involved/young-members-network/speak-out-for-engineering>



sofe@imeche.org

Part 2

Educational Provider Partner Schemes

Accreditation

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers, licensed by the Engineering Council¹, works closely with universities and apprenticeship providers to ensure engineering programmes meet internationally recognised standards and support progression to professional registration as EngTech, IEng, and CEng.

Accreditation and scheme approval provide independent assurance of quality and confirm alignment with the Accreditation of Higher Education Programmes (AHEP) framework, which defines the academic requirements for accredited engineering degrees, as well as with UK-SPEC². This helps give learners a clear and structured pathway towards professional recognition.

For education providers, accreditation enhances institutional reputation, strengthens student recruitment, and ensures that qualifications are valued by employers worldwide. For apprenticeship providers, IMechE approval demonstrates that training programmes meet industry expectations and support the development of a highly skilled engineering workforce.

¹ Engineering Council (2026) <https://www.engc.org.uk>

² The UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence and Commitment (UK-SPEC) (Fourth Edition), August 2020, <https://www.engc.org.uk/our-role-as-regulator/setting-standards/professional-engineering-competence-and-commitment>



Degree Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are integrated schemes designed to provide both education and competence-based development to participants. Engineering apprenticeships are designed considering the appropriate competency requirements of the Engineering Council (EngC).



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/support-for-universities/how-do-i-get-my-university-accredited



uniaccreditation@imeche.org



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/support-for-universities

Applicants from apprenticeships which deliver either an undergraduate or post-graduate level academic base are eligible to apply for Membership and registration in with the EngC in the appropriate category.

However, all applicants for registration at either IEng or CEng must still undergo the Professional Review Interview in order to establish their suitability against the EngC requirements for registration. Apprenticeship documents may be useful if completing the required Membership and registration application material, but successful completion of the apprenticeship does not automatically ensure success at registration.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/support-for-universities



etas@imeche.org

Monitored Professional Development Scheme (MPDS)

The Monitored Professional Development Scheme (MPDS) is the Institution of Mechanical Engineers' structured framework for developing the competence required for professional registration. While MPDS is most commonly undertaken by graduates and employees after completing their studies, some students can begin their professional development journey earlier through MPDS-accredited industrial placements or degree apprenticeship programmes.

For universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers, MPDS offers a recognised route that helps learners and staff develop and evidence the competencies required by UK-SPEC. Students undertaking MPDS-supported placements can start building experience towards future professional registration, while academic staff may also use MPDS as a structured pathway towards Incorporated Engineer (IEng) or Chartered Engineer (CEng) status.

Academic Professional Placement Schemes (APPS)

The Academic Professional Placement (APP) scheme is designed to provide students with practical industry experience during their degree programme. Unlike the normal accredited Monitored Professional Development Scheme (MPDS), the APP scheme typically lasts a maximum of one year and serves as the first stage of an MPDS. It focuses on the placement or sandwich year in industry, usually occurring at the end of the second year of a BEng or the third year of an MEng programme. The placement is typically 40 weeks long and, while it does not contribute to the student's degree classification, it is a requirement for obtaining a degree title such as "MEng in Mechanical Engineering with a year in industry".



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/professional-development-and-cpd/the-monitored-professional-development-scheme-graduates



mpds@imeche.org

ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL PLACEMENT SCHEME.

Institution of
**MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS**

Submission for approval.



mpds@imeche.org



IPD@imeche.org

Supported Registration Scheme (SRS)

SRS allows graduate engineers, sandwich placement students, Engineering Technicians and any of our members – who are not with an organisation accredited for the Monitored Professional Development Scheme (MPDS) – to record their Initial Professional Development. SRS provides a disciplined and regular reporting framework to record your activities as you work towards professional registration.

You will be able to benchmark your progress – with the help of your mentor – against the Engineering Council's UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC) to determine when you are ready to apply for Chartered or Incorporated Engineer registration.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/professional-development-and-cpd/supported-registration-scheme-for-graduates



srs@imeche.org

Approved Apprenticeship and Placement Schemes

If you run a Modern or Advanced Engineering Apprenticeship Scheme, apply to have it Approved with us and make it more straightforward for your students to become Engineering Technicians (EngTechs).

As a provider of Modern or Advanced Engineering Apprenticeships, you'll already know that having the right professional qualifications is crucial in helping your apprentices achieve career success.

Our aim is to make it as simple as possible for you and your apprentices to benefit from the endorsement of their skills that being registered as an Engineering Technician (EngTech) provides.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/support-for-colleges/approved-apprenticeship-scheme



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/support-for-colleges



etas@imeche.org

Membership Partner Programme

The Membership Partner programme from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) is designed to support organisations, including universities and apprenticeship providers, in developing, recognising, and retaining talented engineers through structured professional engagement. By working in partnership with IMechE, institutions gain access to tailored support such as dedicated account management, professional registration guidance, and tools that help students and apprentices begin building their professional identity early in their careers. The scheme enables universities to align their academic and training provision with globally recognised professional standards, while offering learners clear pathways into membership, continuing professional development, and eventual Chartered or Incorporated Engineer status. This collaboration helps institutions demonstrate a strong commitment to graduate outcomes, industry relevance, and the long-term success of their engineering cohorts.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/membership-partner



mdm@imeche.org

Engineering Council Database (ACAD)

The Engineering Council, which licenses professional engineering institutions like the IMechE, maintains the Accredited Course Search (ACAD) database. This resource allows students and employers to verify if specific degrees, apprenticeships, or qualifications meet the learning outcomes required for professional registration (EngTech, IEng, or CEng).

If a programme is IMechE-accredited, it confirms the curriculum aligns with the UK-SPEC standards. While universities issue the degree certificates, graduates can use the Engineering Council database as a 'mark of assurance' for employers, proving their education provides the necessary underpinning knowledge for Chartered or Incorporated status.

Engineering Council

Degree :

Title

Automotive and Motorsport Engineering

University

University of Huddersfield

Award

MEng

Course Ref

11405

Recognitions

Section	Intake Dates	Award	Course Details	Accredited By	Delivery Provider	Location Provider	International Recognition
CEng (Full)	09/2025 - 08/2030	MEng	4 years : Full Time 5 years : Sandwich	IMechE		University of Huddersfield	Washington Accord
CEng (Full)	09/2011 - 08/2025	MEng	5 years : Sandwich	IMechE			Washington Accord
CEng (Full)	09/2015 - 08/2025	MEng	4 years : Full Time	IMechE	University of Huddersfield	University of Huddersfield	Washington Accord

Public notes

Note	Added by
This course is a new amalgam of courses 8044, 1109 and 8046.	Institution of Mechanical Engineers

Name changes and mergers

Old Organisation	From
Huddersfield Polytechnic	



www.engc.org.uk/education-and-skills/find-your-course/advanced-course-search

Part 3

Scholarships and Awards

Astridge Postgraduate Research Scholarship

Funds postgraduate research in aviation safety and airworthiness, with grants of up to £5,000 per year.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/astridge-postgraduate-research-scholarship

Frederic Barnes Waldron Best Student Award

Recognises the best performing undergraduate student in a programme.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/frederic-barnes-waldron-best-student-award

Best Project Certificate

Awarded each academic year to recognise excellent academic project work nominated by a university's Head of Department.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/best-project-certificate

James Clayton Prize

Acknowledges an outstanding final-year undergraduate student for exceptional achievement.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/james-clayton-award

Best Student Certificate

Recognises an outstanding undergraduate based on overall performance, as recommended by a Head of Department.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/best-student-certificate

Postgraduate Masters Scholarship

Supports masters students based on a academic merit and achievement.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/postgraduate-and-undergraduate-awards/postgraduate-awards/postgraduate-masters-scholarships

Clive Hickman First Year Undergraduate Scholarship

Funded through the Clive Hickman Fund and available to a student in the first year of an institution-accredited degree.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/clive-hickman-first-year-undergraduate-scholarship

Project Award

Awarded for an exceptional final-year engineering project demonstrating innovation and excellence.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/project-award

First Year Undergraduate Scholarship

Offers funding to high-performing students in their first year of study.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/first-year-undergraduate-scholarship

Vision Awards

Recognises scholarship recipients who demonstrate leadership, impact, or outstanding contribution.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/scholarship-visionary

Spencer Wilks Postgraduate Masters Scholarships

Prestigious funding for masters students pursuing advanced engineering studies.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/spencer-wilks-postgraduate-masters-scholarships

Undergraduate Scholarships

Provides general financial support for undergraduate engineering students to aid in study and professional development.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards/undergraduate-scholarships

Industry and special interest group awards

Recognising and rewarding engineering achievement wherever we can, our awards are here to support you in your career.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/industry-and-specialisms-awards

All Awards & Scholarships



www.imeche.org/careers-education/scholarships-and-awards/university-awards

*Please note that the availability of awards and scholarships may vary and is subject to change.



Part 4

Memberships

Affiliate Membership

Affiliate membership is intended for individuals at the earliest stage of their engineering journey, including apprentices, college students, undergraduate students, apprentices or those with a general interest in engineering. It provides access to learning resources, events, networking opportunities, and career guidance, helping individuals develop their understanding of the profession and prepare for future professional registration.

For apprentices and undergraduate students studying a STEM subject, affiliate membership is typically available at no cost for the duration of their studies.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/become-a-member/affiliate-member



membership@imeche.org

Undergraduate students (eg BEng, Integrated MEng)

If you're studying for your first degree in a STEM subject (full-time, part-time or sandwich) you can [apply online](#) or complete a [PDF application form](#) along with any other supporting documents and email it to membership@imeche.org.

[Apply for Student membership >](#)

Apprentices or those in Further Education

If you're on an apprenticeship or studying engineering at college you can apply online or you can email a completed [PDF application form](#) to membership@imeche.org.

[Apply for Apprentice membership >](#)

Individuals interested in engineering

If you're interested in engineering, but have no formal qualifications, and would like to pay to become a member, you can apply online. An application [fee](#) is required. Or you can email a [PDF application form](#) to membership@imeche.org.

[Apply for Affiliate membership >](#)

Associate Membership

Associate membership (AMIMechE) is designed for graduates who hold an undergraduate degree in engineering or a related STEM subject. It represents the next step in professional development after student or affiliate membership and enables individuals to begin working towards Incorporated Engineer or Chartered Engineer status.

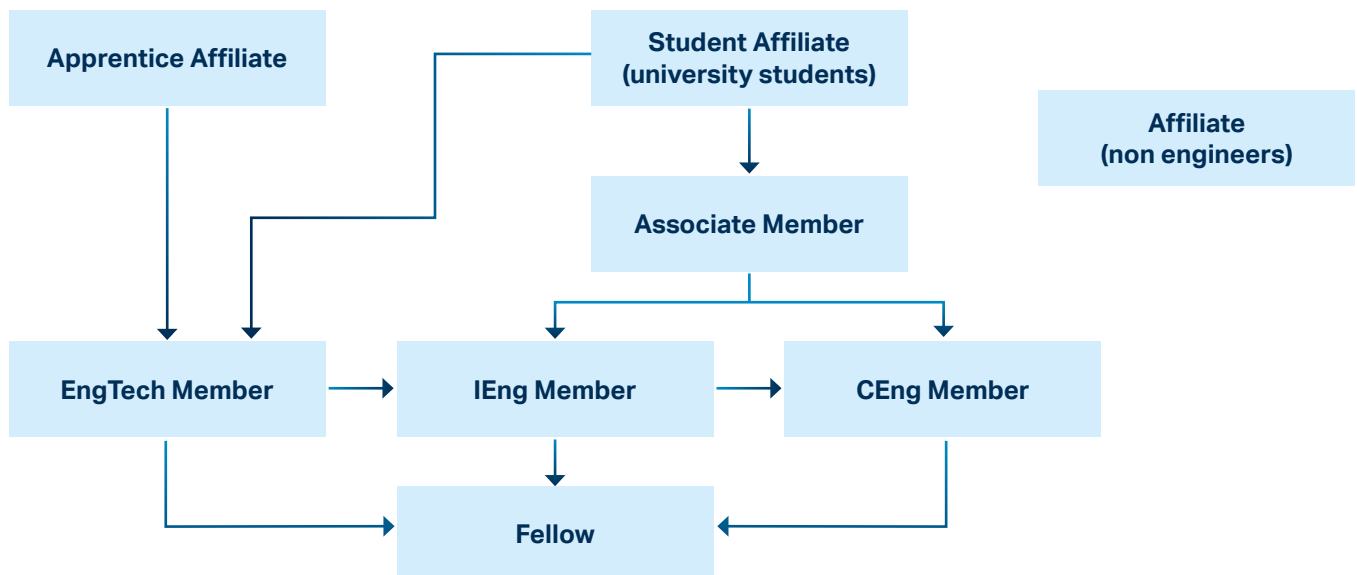
Associate members can use the post-nominals AMIMechE and gain access to professional

development resources, technical networks, and industry events that support progression toward professional registration. Associate fees are charged on a sliding scale for members aged less than 25 to ages greater than 30, helping graduates and apprentices' transition smoothly from Affiliate to Associate membership.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/become-a-member/associate-member

membership@imeche.org



Engineering Technician Membership

Engineering Technician (EngTech) registration recognises individuals who apply proven techniques and procedures to solve practical engineering problems and who demonstrate competence through vocational qualifications or work-based learning, typically at Level 3 or equivalent, applicable to most undergraduates and apprentices. This registration provides formal professional recognition and demonstrates technical competence, commitment to professional standards, and adherence to the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC). Many apprentices or placement students are applicable to apply for EngTech.

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN APPROVED ROUTE.

Institution of
MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Applications



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/become-a-member/engineering-technician

membership@imeche.org



Incorporated Engineer Membership

Incorporated Engineers (IEng) maintain and manage applications of current and developing technology, and may undertake engineering design, development, manufacture, construction and operation. Their academic knowledge is at bachelor's level or equivalent. Higher education staff are likely at the level of incorporated engineer.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/become-a-member/incorporated-engineer



membership@imeche.org



Chartered Engineer Membership

Chartered Engineers (CEng) develop solutions to complex engineering problems using new or existing technologies, and through innovation, creativity and technical analysis. Their academic knowledge is at master's level or equivalent. A level of membership aimed at more senior, developed engineers, such as professors, doctors and senior researchers within universities.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/become-a-member/chartered-engineer



membership@imeche.org



Fellow Membership

Likely for the more seasoned academic and educators, becoming a Fellow is recognition that you're a professional engineer working in a senior role with significant autonomy and responsibility. It is the highest level of membership and demonstrates your wealth of experience, commitment and contribution to engineering.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/become-a-member/fellow



membership@imeche.org

Part 5

Student Chapters



Student Chapters

The UK Student Chapter model enables any registered university engineering society to affiliate with the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE). Recognising the valuable contributions of these societies, the IMechE aims to empower students to deliver a diverse range of activities by offering financial support and mentorship through their local Young Members Panel (YMP). University engineering societies are already thriving communities that champion the advancement of engineering and inspire future innovators. These societies share core values with the IMechE, which has a strong member network committed to the same principles of professional development, collaboration, and technical excellence. By affiliating through the Student Chapter model, we create a powerful partnership that strengthens both communities, enabling greater opportunities, shared resources, and a unified effort to shape the next generation of engineers.



Youngmembers@imeche.org

Part 6

Career Guidance and Support

Careers Guide

The IMechE's Mechanical Engineering Careers Guide is a practical resource for students and engineers navigating the UK job market. It provides direct support for securing internships, graduate schemes, and voluntary roles while offering expert advice

on professional development. By linking users to structured pathways like the Monitored Professional Development Scheme (MPDS) and employer-led Approved Schemes (APPS), the guide ensures that early-career engineers can effectively map their work experience against UK-SPEC standards to achieve Chartered or Incorporated status.

In this guide:

1. How to find a mechanical engineering job
2. Find a work placement, work experience or internship
3. Find a voluntary role
4. Find a graduate scheme
5. Find a training course or professional development option
6. Access careers advice
7. Write a compelling covering letter
8. How to write a great CV
9. How to succeed in your job interview
10. How to do well at an assessment day
11. How much do engineers earn?
12. Career development – company information



www.imeche.org/careers-education/careers-information/mechanical-engineering-careers-guide



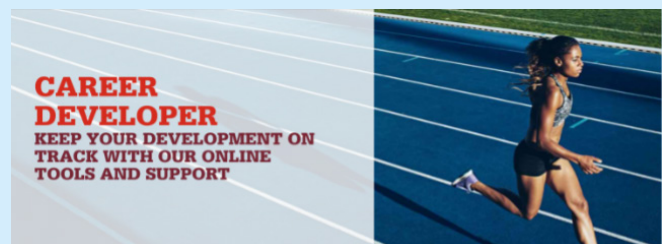
www.imeche.org/careers-education/careers-information

Career Developer

Career Developer is the online portal that allows you to manage your professional development in a quick and easy way.

Career Developer can be used at any stage of your engineering career, whether you're a practicing engineer gaining competence through Initial Professional Development (IPD), or an experienced engineer that wishes to keep a record of your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and career progression.

Depending on where you are in your career, you'll need to use a certain tool – or complete an application form – before you can access some areas of Career Developer. Please choose the tool below that best applies to you.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/professional-development-and-cpd/career-developer



mpds@imeche.org



cpd@imeche.org

Developing Engineers Programme

The Developing Engineers Programme is exclusively available to Associate Members, of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. Associate membership can be achieved upon completion of an undergraduate degree.

It is designed to support your goal of achieving professional registration – the globally-recognised gold standard for engineers.

The programme helps you build a personal plan to achieve professional registration, to support your ambition and fulfil your career potential.

Inside, you'll find the best tools, guidance and support from the Institution in an easy-to-use and structured programme, to help you track progress against your goals.



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/professional-development-and-cpd/career-developer/de-programme/log-in?rURL=https%3a%2f%2fwww.imeche.org%2fmembership-registration%2fprofessional-development-and-cpd%2fcareer-developer%2fde-programme

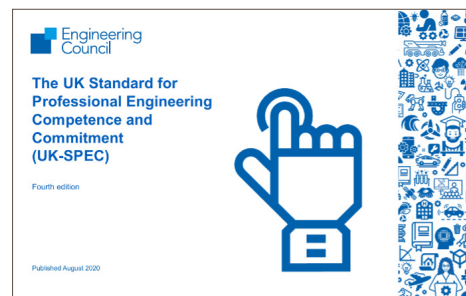


subscriptions@imeche.org

UK-SPEC

The UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence and Commitment (UK-SPEC) Fourth edition¹, is the Engineering Council's framework for professional registration, defining the knowledge, skills, behaviours and professional commitment expected of Engineering Technicians, Incorporated Engineers and Chartered Engineers. It is structured around five key competency areas: knowledge and understanding, design and development, leadership and management, communication, and professional commitment.

For students, apprentices and education professionals, UK-SPEC provides a clear benchmark for developing the technical and professional competencies valued by employers and required for future professional registration.



[uk-spec-fourth-edition.pdf](#)

¹ Engineering Council (2026) <https://www.engc.org.uk/>



Apprenticeship Search Tools

Use our useful apprenticeship weblinks to find apprenticeship vacancies that might be suitable for you.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/careers-information/apprentices/useful-apprenticeship-weblinks

Part 7

Events, Volunteering, Learning and Development

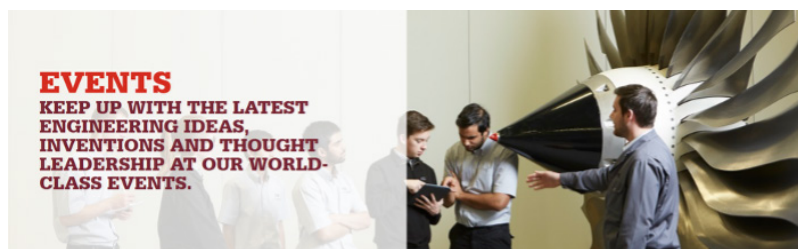
Events

These events are designed to be highly inclusive. Many sessions are entirely open to the public, welcoming both active IMechE members and non-members who have an interest in the field. This makes the platform an excellent resource for anyone looking to expand their industry knowledge or connect with like-minded professionals.

A significant portion of the programming is specifically tailored and marketed toward university students, academic staff, and engineering apprentices. For example, events such as CAD

design challenges provide practical software experience, while evening lectures on topics like patent law, decarbonisation, and renewable energy storage offer valuable context outside the traditional classroom or workshop. By attending these events, early career engineers and educational staff can bridge the gap between theoretical study and realworld industry applications.

Whether you are looking for virtual webinars or in person gatherings in your local area, the online calendar allows you to filter by region, event type, and industry sector to find the perfect opportunities to supplement your training and education.



[www.imeche.org/events/
events-upcoming](http://www.imeche.org/events/events-upcoming)



eventenquiries@imeche.org



Great Event Guide

The Great Event Ideas Guide has been created by the Institution's Young Members Board to improve awareness throughout the Institution's volunteers of potential events which can be run by local panels and committees. The guide provides ideas for new events in order to engage with the Young Members of the Institution.



[www.imeche.org/get-involved/young-members-
network/great-event-ideas-guide](http://www.imeche.org/get-involved/young-members-network/great-event-ideas-guide)



youngmembers@imeche.org

Extra-curricular Learning and Training

To truly stand out in today's competitive engineering landscape, graduates need more than just an academic degree, they need proven, hands-on experience. That is why the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) strongly encourages universities and training providers to actively promote our flagship extra-curricular events, such as Formula Student, the UAS Challenge, and the Design Challenge. These practical competitions serve as the perfect supplement to traditional university

curricula, giving students a dynamic, high-stakes sandbox to apply classroom theory to real-world engineering and budget constraints. Crucially, these events are also an incredible platform for degree apprentices, allowing them to leverage their day-to-day industry experience while collaborating seamlessly with full-time undergraduates. By championing these extra-curricular challenges alongside your standard programs, institutions can foster a rich, collaborative environment that dramatically boosts employability, sharpens commercial awareness, and transforms students and apprentices alike into industry-ready engineers.



www.imeche.org/training-qualifications



www.imeche.org/training-qualifications/all-training-and-qualifications



training@imeche.org

STEM Ambassador

As part of our commitment to engineering education, the Institution of Mechanical Engineers strongly encourages university students and degree apprentices to register as STEM Ambassadors. This vital volunteering role involves visiting local schools, hosting interactive workshops, and participating in community events to spark a passion for science and engineering in young minds. For universities, promoting the STEM Ambassador programme is a highly effective way to meet widening participation and community outreach goals. For your cohorts, it offers an unparalleled, out-of-the-classroom

opportunity to develop essential "soft skills", such as public speaking, adaptable communication, and project management—that are frequently cited as skill gaps by graduate employers. Crucially, all outreach activities count directly towards a student's or apprentice's Continuing Professional Development (CPD), accelerating their journey toward full professional registration. By integrating the STEM Ambassador programme into your extra-curricular framework, your institution can help shape socially responsible, confident engineers who give back to their communities while actively enhancing their own employability.



www.imeche.org/careers-education/stem-ambassador



ambassadors@imeche.org

Volunteering

Beyond the lecture hall and the competition tracks, the Institution of Mechanical Engineers offers a wealth of volunteering opportunities that serve as a powerful catalyst for professional and personal development. We strongly encourage universities to integrate these roles into the student and apprentice experience. Whether it is becoming a STEM Ambassador to inspire the next generation in local schools, serving on a regional Young Members Panel, or acting as a University Representative, volunteering provides a unique platform to develop crucial leadership, communication, and project management skills. For degree apprentices and traditional undergraduates alike, engaging in these roles not only enriches their academic journey but also provides essential evidence of continuous professional development (CPD), a vital stepping stone toward professional registration. By championing IMechE volunteering opportunities, your institution can foster a culture of civic responsibility and produce well-rounded, socially conscious engineers who are ready to lead the industry forward.



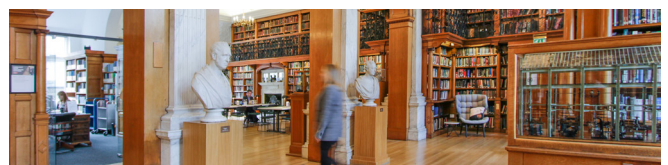
www.imeche.org/get-involved/volunteering-opportunities



volunteer.recruitment@imeche.org

Library, Toolkits and News

As an affiliate member of IMechE, university students and degree apprentices gain free access to a suite of powerful digital tools designed to support both their academic studies and long-term career progression. Members can bypass paywalls to access a world-class digital library packed with premium engineering databases, e-books, and technical standards, which is invaluable whether researching a final-year dissertation or seeking technical solutions for a workplace project. To help build essential commercial awareness, the IMechE News portal provides curated, up-to-the-minute updates on global engineering



trends and sector-specific developments, perfect for interview preparation and everyday professional networking. Finally, IMechE provides intuitive online tools to log Continuing Professional Development, allowing degree apprentices to track the workplace competencies required for professional registration, while enabling traditional students to build a highly professional portfolio of extra-curricular activities and summer placements before they even graduate.

Useful Links:



www.imeche.org/library-archive/search-our-library-and-digital-resources



www.imeche.org/membership-registration/professional-development-and-cpd



www.imeche.org/careers-education/careers-information/apprenticeship-useful-apprenticeship-weblinks



www.imeche.org/news



www.youtube.com/c/imecheuk

Part 8:

Templates

Universities are encouraged to use the following official templates to help students engage with the Institution. These materials are suitable for departmental notice boards or as part of course inductions.

BECOME A FREE STUDENT MEMBER.

Institution of MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Become a Student Member with the IMECHE.

Student membership is free to undergraduate students studying science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects.

- Receive support with planning your career
- Build your engineering knowledge
- Access free resources
- Register for free events

It's quick and easy to sign up.

imeche.org/uni

Improving the world through engineering

p25

BECOME A FREE STUDENT MEMBER.

Provides a clear guide for students on how to register for free membership and outlines the immediate benefits available to them.

HAVE YOU JUST GRADUATED? BECOME AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER.

Institution of MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Unlock your career potential with our membership grade for graduates.

Our members are leading the way in finding innovative and practical solutions to our shared global challenges.

Why not join them?

As an Associate Member, you can:

- Work towards being a CEng or IEng registered engineer
- Develop essential work-ready skills
- Gain the post-nominal AMIMechE
- Access IMechE member benefits

Scan for more information

imeche.org/careerready

Improving the world through engineering

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HAVE YOU JUST GRADUATED? BECOME AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER.

Aims to unlock career potential with IMechE membership grade for graduates.

SHAPE YOUR ENGINEERING FUTURE.

Institution of MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Become a member.

Professional registration is a personal achievement you can share within industry and academia, showing your commitment to your development and the engineering profession.

Take advantage of the many benefits of professional registration:

- International recognition of your experience and competence
- Improved career opportunities and earning potential
- Connect and network with engineers across the world

Inspired to be the best?

Get in touch

imeche.org/applicat

Improving the world through engineering

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SHAPE YOUR ENGINEERING FUTURE.

Professional registration is a valuable credential that you can share across both industry and academia. It demonstrates a high level of commitment to the profession.

BECOME AN IMECHE MEMBERSHIP PARTNER.

Institution of MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Working in collaboration with you to help your engineering workforce to grow and excel.

Collaborate > Grow > Excel

Get in touch today
imeche.org/membershippartner

Improving the world through engineering

p28

BECOME AN IMECHE MEMBERSHIP PARTNER.

Promotes collaboration with IMechE to support and empower the engineering workforce to excel.

Important: These templates are provided as standard resources and **must not be changed** or altered in their design or core messaging.

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**MECHANICAL
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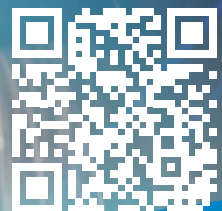
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imeche.org/careerready

Scan for more information



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Inspired
to be the best?



Get in touch

Improving the world through engineering

imeche.org/application-help



BECOME AN IMECHE MEMBERSHIP PARTNER.

Institution of
**MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS**

Working in
collaboration
with you to help
your engineering
workforce
to grow
and excel.

Get in touch today
imeche.org/membershippartner

Collaborate > Grow > Excel



Social media

To stay informed about the latest engineering developments, policy updates, and professional opportunities, members and students are encouraged to follow the Institution's official social media channels. These platforms provide a direct link to the global engineering community, offering insights into technical webinars, industry news, and key networking events across the UK.



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[/institution-of-mechanical-engineers](#)



[/IMechE](#)



IMechE strives to keep information up to date and welcomes feedback from members.

The logo for the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, featuring the text "Institution of MECHANICAL ENGINEERS" in white on a red background.

Institution of
**MECHANICAL
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