

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & SCIENCE

INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING COURSES

Dear Student,

Engineers Australia requires that engineering students aggregate at least 12 weeks of practical experience preferably during a Bachelor of Engineering course. The experience should be relevant to engineering and normally will be obtained during vacations.

Engineers Australia provides the following guidelines for Engineering Faculties regarding this practical experience.

“Practical experience should complement the formal studies of the course and ideally should contain several different types of experience. The opportunity to observe human and industrial relations, job organisation, maintenance, safety and environmental procedures, from the view point of the general workforce, is an important component in the early preparation for a career as an engineer, irrespective of the detailed nature of the work undertaken. Later in the course, work in an engineering office or laboratory directly assisting engineers would offer the student a valuable insight into professional practice. At the end of each component of experience the student should be required to prepare a brief critical appraisal of the situation in which he was working and to submit this for assessment, together with certification by the employer or his representative of the tasks undertaken by the student. ”

To comply with these guidelines the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Science requires that all students enrolled in a Bachelor of Engineering degree program must undertake work experience which satisfies the following.

Students must accumulate 12 weeks of approved work experience prior to submitting an application for graduation.

At least 6 weeks of the work experience must be relevant engineering experience and up to 6 weeks may be general work experience. Typical examples of relevant engineering experience and general work experience are listed overleaf.

The following documents must be submitted for assessment:

1. Certification by the employer of the tasks which were undertaken during work experience. A form headed “*Certificate of Industrial Experience*” is available from the School of Engineering & Science office for this purpose and is also available from the School website.
2. Brief reports by the student on the engineering experience and the general work experience components. It is expected these reports will each be at least 500 words in length and will be typed.

GENERAL WORK EXPERIENCE

General work experience should preferably have some technical or innovative scope, or provide for leadership or initiative in working with others.

The following areas of work are examples of those which may be used for general work experience.

- Shop assistant with supervisory role
- Sales person with supervisory role
- Process worker on an assembly line
- Youth camp leader
- Non-engineering computer software development
- Tradesperson's assistant
- Boiler attendant

ENGINEERING WORK EXPERIENCE

The work must be taken in an engineering environment, under the supervision of a professional engineer (or other related professional) and may comprise activities such as:

Investigation, analysis, design drafting, construction, manufacture, installation, operation, maintenance, testing or repair of engineering works, facilities, equipment or software.

Students with difficulties in obtaining relevant engineering experience may enrol in a ***“Graduate Engineering Training Program”*** offered by Engineers Australia and the A.P.E.S.A. This is a structured one month program to enable recent graduates to obtain industrial based training.

For further clarification regarding industrial experience requirements please contact Ms Anna Calabro on 9919 4075 or via email Anna.Calabro@vu.edu.au or presented to her at Room D332 at Footscray Park campus.