Facilities Engineer

WHO ARE THEY?
Facilities Engineer are involved with designing, building, and maintaining facilities that bring production to market. They are professionals responsible for planning all aspects of a new project or improving an existing facility, including but not limited to labor costs, procedures and standards, schedules, and reviewing construction or production bids. Facilities Engineers are problem solvers and innovators finding solutions to building projects that, in the past, would have been impossible. They work in offices and operate sites with a wide range of other professionals. They may have to travel all over the world to visit work sites but can also manage projects remotely with teleconferencing tools. Facilities Engineers work for many different companies, such as oil and gas engineering companies, refineries, construction companies, water management companies, and government organizations. Facilities Engineers ensure the best operations of the facility project they are working to complete.

WHAT DO THEY DO?
Facilities Engineers design, construct, and manage the essential infrastructure components, including power, cooling, security, and fire systems. They perform analysis, application engineering, and system or process development. They design systems, components, or processes meeting specific needs for broadly-defined engineering problems appropriate to facilities equipment, systems, and structures. Facilities Engineers lead professional teams as they work to complete a project. They communicate effectively and can support their positions with data as they prepare statements of work, engineering specifications, and estimates. They manage budgets and handle contract bids for project components. Facilities Engineers maintain safety and regulation standards of federal, state, and local entities.

SALARY RANGE
$52,000–$110,000 plus bonus up $15,000

JOB OUTLOOK
The field of Facilities Engineer will see a 4% job growth by 2028. In the future, Facilities Engineers will have access to more tools than ever before, such as the Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, smart sensors, and beacon technology that deploys people/resources to the right place at the right time. Facilities Engineers can design some of the most significant and most challenging projects in the world, such as offshore platforms that withstand heavy seas and hurricanes while protecting hundreds of personnel.

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HOW DO I BECOME ONE?

A Facilities Engineer requires a Bachelor of Science in engineering. Experience in the field can provide the path to senior positions. The Association for Facilities Engineering offers the following certification: CPE—Certified Plant Engineer, CPMM—Certified Professional Maintenance Manager, and CPS—Certified Professional Supervisor. Employers are looking for five years of experience in a facilities-related field, a strong work ethic, and a willingness to travel to field/project locations. Facilities Engineers should have excellent communication and organizational skills, as well as attention to detail. Facilities Engineers need to be self-motivated. They need to react quickly to changing priorities and deadlines, as well as direct and manage engineering and design members of the team.

EDUCATION/TRAINING

In addition to a bachelor’s degree, this position may require:

- Experience and demonstrated aptitude in most phases of engineering, construction, and facilities
- Relevant work experience
- Computer Experience with all the MS Office programs and Visio
- Excellent technical communication skills
- LEED accreditation
- AFE certification

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