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gradireland Construction is published by Graduate Careers Ireland and GTI Media Ltd (Ireland).

Project managed by Graduate Careers Ireland Careers Information Committee: Paul Murphy, Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology (chair); Kendra Cassidy, NUI Galway (secretary); Colette Aungier, Trinity College Dublin; Cora Cregan, St Patrick's College, Drumcondra; Angela Hamilton, University of Ulster; Catherine Lyster, Letterkenny Institute of Technology; Eanan Strain, NUI Maynooth.

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Introducing your career in construction

Why construction?

Construction activity involves civil engineering and building work for public and private clients. The main sectors include residential, commercial and industrial contracting; public sector and civil engineering projects; and specialist, mechanical and electrical contracting.

The construction sector offers a variety of career opportunities for graduates with professional, managerial and administrative skills. Graduates with skills in construction economics and quantity surveying, engineering, project management, information technology, property management and development, computer aided design, legal and financial services are particularly valued. So whether you qualify as an engineer, quantity surveyor, land surveyor, construction manager, developer, architect or planner, you'll be working in a major sector of the economy involved in developing and improving the built environment.

As a career choice, the construction sector offers great job satisfaction, good salary levels and high quality training. There are opportunities to work at home and abroad, and the varied working environment combines working outdoors along with office based work, working with your hands and with leading edge technologies.

Construction in Ireland and Northern Ireland

Although the construction industry in Ireland has been badly affected by the downturn, the long-term career prospects for graduates remain excellent. The residential and commercial sectors may currently be experiencing a slowdown, but ongoing projects continue and there is sustained growth in other areas, including environmental engineering and off-site pre-engineered building. The National Development Plan infrastructure initiatives and the National Spatial Strategy will be key factors in economic recovery. In Northern Ireland, the Strategic Investment Board is expected to play a similar role. Many cross-border projects are undertaken, facilitated by InterTradeIreland, the trade and business development body. Sustainable construction and energy efficient buildings are high priorities, creating new opportunities for businesses and graduates. Areas such as waste management, wind farms and energy generation, and the increase in off-site construction, such as timber-frame housing, are all driving the demand for skilled employees. Graduates who gain professional qualifications, for example, chartered status and who train for highly specialised or managerial positions have many opportunities for career development and progression.

Would it suit me?

The construction industry is dynamic, influenced by changes in the economy, in legislation, in technology and new methodologies and environmental changes. Employers recruit graduates with skills that can encompass these changes. So while technical expertise is important, other attributes, such as keeping abreast of change in the industry, are also very important. It also helps to have good business sense and initiative, along with problem solving, organisational and planning skills, flexibility and the ability to get on with a wide range of people. Within the sector, there is great variety, intellectual stimulation, and the satisfaction of contributing to the safety and sustainability of the built environment.

An international career

The labour market for construction skills goes way beyond Ireland to Great Britain and the wider world. Despite contraction of the industry opportunities remain, particularly for those with specialist and professional training. Skills are highly transferable and experience of large building and infrastructure projects are extremely marketable to employers overseas. In the run up to the 2012 Olympic Games, London will offer desirable career opportunities, while further afield there are significant opportunities in sector areas such as tunnelling, geo-technical, highway construction and marine.

Getting a job

For advice on finding the right job in construction, read on.

The graduate recruitment process normally commences in the first semester and the larger construction companies contact colleges before Christmas, with a view to recruiting when students graduate in the summer. These companies either give single presentations to groups of

students in college or attend careers fairs nationally and in colleges. Frequently at these recruitment events, work experience opportunities are available for students at all levels. So, regardless of what year you're in, it's important to have an up-to-date CV prepared. Keep in touch with your

careers service and with lecturers and tutors about upcoming events and vacancies in construction companies. While most construction companies contact colleges to recruit graduates, they also use newspaper advertising, word of mouth, industry-specific recruitment agencies and websites, as



well as advertising on their own websites.

Many companies, particularly smaller firms, welcome the initiative taken by those who send in speculative applications. While the particular company may not have an immediate vacancy, they generally contact candidates for an informal interview should anything suitable arise in the future.

Look at the opportunities

The best way to get the job you want is to check out what's happening in the industry and then target the companies you are interested in: see the suggestions for advertised and unadvertised vacancies in the 'Work experience' section on page 6. Some publications concerning the Irish construction industry include:

- *Construction* – the official magazine of the Construction Industry Federation (www.cif.ie)
- *Irish Construction Industry Magazine* – daily news and information (www.irishconstruction.com)
- *Construct Ireland* – covers a wide range of areas, such as waste, construction and renewable energy (www.constructireland.ie)
- *PLAN* magazine – a monthly magazine which includes coverage of the business and financial structure of the industry (www.planmagazine.ie).

Many professional bodies also have jobs and news sections on their websites. Other useful reference points are:

- gradireland.com/construction – construction-related graduate jobs, applications advice and news.
- www.cisireland.com – the CIS (Construction Information Services) Report gives advance market research information to contractors

and suppliers in both the Republic and Northern Ireland.

- www.euroconstruct.org – network for construction, finance and business forecasting in Europe.
- www.kompass.ie – a comprehensive directory of Irish and worldwide companies.
- www.goldenpages.ie – Ireland's classified directory.
- www.nrf.ie – Ireland's national recruitment federation, where you can search for agencies that deal with the construction industry.

'The best way to get the job you want is to check out what's happening in the industry and then target the companies you are interested in.'

Your CV

Once you've done your market research, it's time to work on your CV. Employers in the industry say that CVs should be easy to read, accurate and grammatically correct. The ability to work well with others is important, so ensure that you make reference to examples of teamwork. Other key skills include problem solving, negotiating and communicating effectively. In many of the larger construction companies, graduates work on different projects, so flexibility is important. One way to demonstrate this in your CV is by including a variety of extra-curricular activities.

Your covering letter should show your motivation for working in that particular company, so it helps if you are able to make reference to relevant

recent projects that you have read about or newspaper articles you have seen about the company.

Interviews

When you are called for interview, you will need to think about why you chose your particular course, what you know about the company and the job and what you have learned from any relevant work experience.

As graduate positions in the construction industry are likely to have some technical elements, be prepared for questions on the content of your course. If you've completed a dissertation or final-year project this could be where the technical questions arise.

Commercial awareness is something many recruiters expect graduates to demonstrate. Most employers say that while your degree classification is as important, your interpersonal skills, enthusiasm and commitment to doing well for the company are also very important.

Potential employers

- gradireland.com
- targetjobs.co.uk
- www.kompass.ie
- www.goldenpages.ie
- www.nrf.ie
- www.build.ie Directory of construction-related companies in Ireland and the UK.

Postgraduate study

- postgradireland.com/engineering Information about courses in engineering, manufacturing and construction.

Work experience

Experience in the industry can help you to get a job.

One of the main aims of your time in college should be to acquire the attributes and skills that are required by employers. This means having technical skills as well as 'soft skills' such as leadership and initiative. If you can demonstrate that you have already achieved a certain level of competence, you will be far more likely to get the job you want. Employers value work experience as a sign of your ability, interest, commitment and enthusiasm.

Any form of work, paid or voluntary, can be described as work experience. However, industry-related work experience undertaken by students with the purpose of gaining specific skills can be invaluable. A summer placement will give you a head start in the hunt for a job and help you put the theory from your course into practice. The main thing is that you can articulate your achievements and provide evidence of what you have done and how it relates to the job you are interested in.

Types of work experience include placements (sometimes part of your course), internships (which may lead to a job), and part-time and voluntary work. They can all help you to develop general business and transferable skills.

How to get work experience

The majority of vacancies may not be advertised. The most effective way is to approach the company or organisation directly, early in the year. You need to call in personally or send in your CV

and covering letter. Either way, make sure your CV is up to scratch, whether you want to work at home or overseas.

Advertised vacancies

Check:

- your careers service and other college websites, jobs newsletter and noticeboards
- college noticeboards
- students' union
- university and local libraries
- national and local newspapers
- recruitment agencies
- gradireland.com and [gradireland.com Work Experience & Internships](http://gradireland.com/Work Experience & Internships).

Unadvertised vacancies

Working in a small country, it's relatively easy to find out who the movers and shakers are in the industry. Many jobs are never advertised so it is up to you to find them. Here's how:

- Talk to people in the industry.
- Talk to your tutors.
- Use your contacts – talk to your friends, relatives and neighbours who may have useful advice and contacts.
- Send out speculative applications.
- Use the Kompass directory (www.kompass.ie) to identify companies in your field of interest.



Types of employer

There are many different types of employer to choose from in the construction industry so explore the options available to you.

The construction industry covers a whole range of building projects, from housing to offices to schools, but the basic process remains the same. A **client** wants something built and usually employs a **consultant** to deal with design, planning and cost matters. **Contractors** will then bid for the proposed project and complete its construction, sometimes hiring **subcontractors** or **specialist contractors**, such as plumbers and electricians, for their specialist skills. Typical consultants include architects, engineers and quantity surveyors. They usually divide their time between the site and their main office, while contractors are usually based in on-site offices. Increasingly, some contractors offer an all-in-one 'design and build' service.

Typical employers

Typical employers include:

- Quantity surveying firms. Involved primarily with construction economics and construction tendering, costing and budgetary control.
- Property developers/construction companies and contractors. Involved with project management of large construction projects including the management of manpower and materials, within time, cost and safety constraints.
- Consultancy firms. Involved primarily with the planning and design of projects, together with some supervision of the work carried out. They provide expertise in certain types of projects, such as conservation, transportation or other specialist areas.
- Local authorities. Responsible for the construction of roads, waterworks and drainage and may be involved in both the design and construction of these projects. Increasingly they contract out this work.
- Government and semi-state sector. Carry out national development plans, sometimes with public private partnerships (PPPs). These include schools, hospitals, education, health, public buildings and major infrastructure. They also conduct research on environmental, water and air quality management.
- Utility companies. These include electric power supply and distribution, gas, communications and public transport companies requiring engineering and construction management expertise.

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Construction economics/ quantity surveying

Graduates of quantity surveying, construction economics and building surveying degree courses work as economic advisers and managers in quantity surveying companies, in consultancy and in the offices of building contractors. Graduates may also pursue careers as project managers and property and building managers. Business careers, especially legal and financial, are also suitable. Likely projects in Ireland and Northern Ireland include the development and construction of major projects, such as residential and retail development, office buildings, schools, hospitals, bridges, roads and sewerage.

Quantity surveyors and construction economists, sometimes known as construction cost consultants, work for either the client or contractor and can be based in an office or on site. Their role is to manage all costs relating to construction projects from initial design calculations to the final account, seeking to minimise costs and enhance value for money, while achieving the required standards and quality. They:

- prepare cost plans to enable design teams to produce practical designs for construction projects, which involves liaising with architects, engineers and subcontractors.
- evaluate tenders from contractors and subcontractors and, where appropriate, negotiate with the contractors.
- control and monitor all stages of projects within predetermined budget and expenditure.
- monitor and keep track of project progress and are responsible for the measurement and valuation of variations in the work during the contract, for agreement of interim payments and the final account.

Upon completion of accredited diploma and degree courses, graduates are eligible to commence the process leading to qualification as a chartered surveyor and full membership of both the Society of Chartered Surveyors (SCS) and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). See the career section of the SCS website (www.scs.ie) and the RICS website (www.rics.org) for accredited courses and for information regarding the Assessment of Professional Competence (APC).

Construction management

Construction management graduates are involved in all stages of building projects, from concept and finance to maintenance and decommissioning. Some job roles include:

Construction manager/site manager

This is the person in charge of a building contract and as such they must be aware of, and in control of, all aspects of site operations. They have responsibility both for the profitability of operations and for adhering to the construction and cost plans once agreed. Construction managers or site managers supervise and direct operations on a construction project to ensure it is completed safely, on time and within budget. On smaller sites, managers may carry sole responsibility for the whole project; on larger sites, they may be in charge of a particular section, reporting to the senior site manager. Senior construction managers may oversee several construction projects at the same time.

Construction managers work closely with other professionals including architects, engineers, technicians and surveyors, and also act as a point of contact for the public. They have frequent meetings with subcontractors and daily contact with the site workforce.

Contracts manager

This is a similar role to that of site manager, ensuring that all works are completed to the required standards and supported by the relevant documentation. They need to ensure that strict quality control and health and safety measures are adhered to, as well as operational and maintenance procedures. They also have to check that licences are up to date and correct.

Construction estimator

This is similar to the work of a quantity surveyor and involves preparing tenders based on architects' drawings and client requirements. While this is predominantly an office-based position, it is not necessarily a nine-to-five job. The role includes analysis of subcontractors' quotations and working with the planning engineer to predict the likely progress rate and completion date of the project.



A third-level qualification in a building-related subject will improve your employment chances.

Building project manager

Their responsibility is to see that the clients' wishes are adhered to and that the project is completed on time and within the agreed budget. A building project manager is often involved from the initial concept and design of a project through to its construction and completion. They keep track of progress, building control regulations and quality standards and resolve any technical difficulties that arise. They are likely to work on more than one project at a time.

Building surveyor

They offer a specialist service on all matters relating to construction, including the restoration of old buildings and the construction of new ones. Among the services offered are building surveys of residential, industrial and commercial property for intending purchasers. They need to interpret building regulations and use professional skill and judgement to offer advice on acceptable

solutions to meet statutory requirements. Building surveyors also deal with fire precautions and insurance claims. It's a route open to any graduate.

Other related jobs

Facilities manager: This involves managing retail centres and offices blocks to meet the needs of the organisation, the management and the occupants. Property and estate management companies may have facilities management sections that manage these facilities on behalf of clients. Large organisations and corporations may have facilities management departments of their own. The facilities manager may employ specialist building services personnel such as building services engineers and trades either as employees or as subcontractors.

Technical sales adviser: Their work involves the preparation of estimates and tenders; preparation of drawings and specifications for technical elements; management; quality assurance; and technical sales.

There can also be opportunities for self-employment, in terms of project management, building estimation etc.

Civil engineering

Civil engineers design and supervise the construction of a wide range of projects including buildings, roads, railways, tunnels, bridges, power stations, dams, water supply and sewerage systems.

Civil engineers work for a variety of companies including firms of consulting engineers, engineering contractors, construction companies and local authorities. They are also employed by property developers, transport infrastructure companies and government departments.

Generally speaking, the work of civil and structural engineers will combine site and design work. However, consulting engineers tend to focus more on design whilst contracting engineers will spend more time on site work, which involves supervising the setting out and levelling of the site, surveying and site management. Civil engineers work on projects that involve multi-disciplinary teams including architects, quantity surveyors and building services engineers.

Consulting engineers are responsible for working with clients to design, plan, manage and supervise the construction of projects. Their work involves carrying out site investigations and feasibility studies; developing detailed designs; liaising with other professionals such as architects, building services engineers and quantity surveyors; and ensuring the smooth running of projects and completion within budget and on time.

Contracting civil engineers turn the plans of designers into reality. They liaise with the design team and oversee the actual construction on site. Their work involves organising manpower and materials, observing safety standards, negotiating modifications with the designers, scheduling work, and supervising construction, including the work of subcontractors. They use specialist equipment to survey sites to ensure that the construction work is being carried out in the right place and that the structure is safe; for example, that steel reinforcement is correctly in place.

Civil engineering offers graduates a high-tech career with the chance to travel and work outdoors. Due to current demand in this field, graduate starting salaries are often above average.

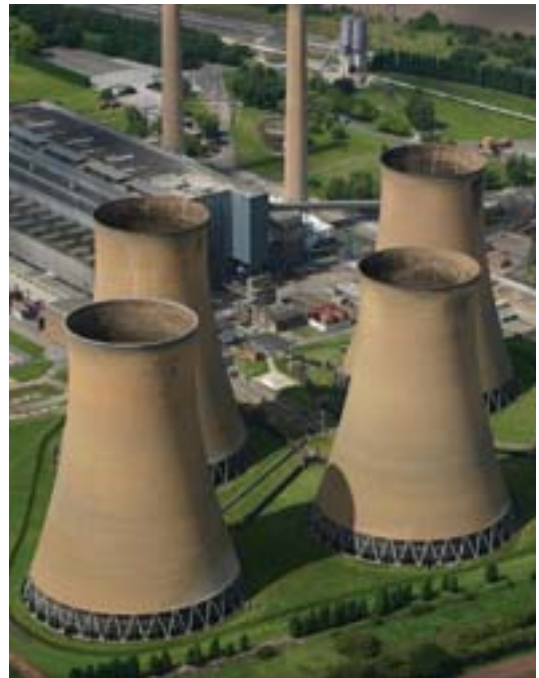
The qualifications and skills you need

This career area is open to any engineering graduate, although a civil or structural background is advantageous. You will need to demonstrate strong technical competence and a creative

approach to problem solving. Numeracy is essential for keeping financial records and managing budgets. Civil engineers also need excellent communication skills in order to liaise with other designers, contractors and subcontractors, other professionals and members of the public who may have objections to building work taking place. Report-writing skills, teamworking, strong organisational skills and the ability to manage resources and people are also required.

Further information

Graduates considering a career in civil engineering should keep abreast of developments via Engineers Ireland (www.engineersireland.ie) and the Institutions of Civil Engineers (www.ice.org.uk) and Structural Engineers (www.istructe.org.uk) in the UK. Student membership of Engineers Ireland is free. Useful information about the sector is also available from the Construction Industry Federation (www.cif.ie). Graduate vacancies in civil engineering are advertised in university and college jobs bulletins, on gradireland.com and on the jobs area of www.engineersireland.ie as well as on company websites.



Architecture

Architects work within a design team – often comprising civil, structural and building services engineers; quantity surveyors; other architects and architectural technicians; and planning consultants – to plan and design a project in accordance with a client's brief. They will also consult with the requisite fire, planning, health and safety and/or environmental authorities. Once building starts, architects work with the main contractor and specialist subcontractors on site.

Architects can specialise in certain types of building or particular aspects of the job, such as conservation or project management. They can be self-employed, part of private practice or part of a national or local government department or commercial organisation.

Architectural technicians (or technologists) are involved throughout the design process. They play a leading role in developing the design to meet the technical requirements of building regulations; preparing applications for fire safety certification; and developing detailed drawings. They are also crucial in co-ordinating the building design process, ensuring it reflects the input of specialist design subcontractors.

Most architectural technologists work in architectural practices but some increasingly work in architectural technology consultancies. Many also take up design or technical sales roles within the manufacturing industry.

The qualifications and skills you need

Degree courses in architecture take five years of full-time study, usually including a year working in the profession. This is followed by two years of approved practical experience, and an examination in professional practice. To qualify as an architectural technician/technologist, you need an accredited recognised degree course (generally taking three years of full-time study), followed by two years of approved practical experience. See the RIAI website (www.riai.ie) and the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists website (www.ciat.org.uk) for information on professional qualifications and membership.

Architecture requires the ability to deal with design and technical detail and the wider demands of projects, requiring self-reliance skills, determination and initiative. Good teamworking and communication skills are also essential.



Building services

Building services engineers ensure that the buildings we live and work in are comfortable, safe and energy efficient. They do this by designing building services systems and supervising their installation and operation. Typically 30–40 per cent of the total construction costs in commercial and industrial buildings are associated with the provision of services such as lighting, heating, air conditioning, power, data communications, public health systems and lifts.

The work involves advising clients and architects; designing suitable systems (using computer-aided design) and supervising their installation; and liaising with structural engineers, construction managers, builders and surveyors.

Building services engineers are employed by consultancies, contractors, local authorities, the public health and healthcare sector, universities and the manufacturing industry.

The skills you need

You will need to demonstrate strong technical competence, design skills and commercial awareness. Good communication skills are essential for liaising with other professionals, as is the ability to work in a team. A good level of numeracy is needed to make complex calculations and estimates for clients.

Building services engineers also require excellent organisational skills and the ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.

Engineers working for contractors need to be able to pick up legal and financial issues and resolve difficulties, while those working for consultants need analytical skills.

Graduates hoping to pursue a career in building services engineering should keep up with developments via the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (www.cibseireland.org in ROI, www.cibse.org in the UK) and Engineers Ireland (www.engineersireland.ie).

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profiles & more

My career in construction

'Running a construction site'

Name Darren Gavin

Job Site Manager

Employer P J Hegarty and Sons

Education Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering, (2004); PgDip Project Management (2006)



The most important thing I did when looking for a graduate position was to gain a range of work experience. During my degree I had a year's placement with a civil engineering consultancy and I also completed work experience with a contractor. This enabled me to make an informed career decision, which helped me stand out while interviewing for my current position.

A typical day on site

I'm responsible for the day-to-day running of the construction site. My current project is building a community centre near the Dublin docklands and I'm kept busy. Yesterday, I was on site in the morning, inspecting progress and ensuring that the subcontractor who had just finished had necessary works completed. I then accompanied the architect to view some concrete finishing and discuss the next steps. Next, I went to our head office to catch up on paperwork and attend a meeting about safety. I'm often on the phone to a wide range of people, such as architects, design consultants and clients, so I require good communication skills.

Professional development

I applied to my company because it offered a scholarship to complete a postgraduate diploma in project management while working, as well as a graduate training programme accredited by Engineers Ireland.

I also attend in-house training courses each year, choosing from a range of courses such as communications skills and technical skills. There are many opportunities to specialise in this field: I could see myself in contracts management eventually. However, at present, I love getting out on site and knowing that a building exists because of my input.

'Seeing my designs built'

Name Niamh Curtin

Job Architect

Employer Murray O' Laoire

Education Bachelor of Architecture (2004)



I've had an interest in design and the way it translates to the built environment from a young age so a career in architecture seemed the best choice for me. When I was looking for my first role, I applied to my current employer with a CV and a sample of my work. I then sat an interview, to which I brought along my full portfolio. I found that having a well-organised portfolio that clearly illustrated all my relevant experience helped at interview.

My role

My role involves liaising with design teams, clients and construction contractors to take an initial idea to a completed building. I am currently involved with several projects at various stages of planning and construction, so I have to be organised! In a typical week, I work on design development and consult clients. Once a project enters its construction phase, I provide the contractors with necessary information, make site inspections and also complete quality control checks.

I am also combining my work with studying for my professional practice exams. Qualification involves submitting a case study of a project I have worked on, attending interviews and sitting exams. While this can be tough, it is a necessary step to take for my career development.

Architecture satisfaction

When beginning your career, it's a good idea to work on smaller projects to get an overview of the scope of work involved in even the simplest of contracts. The best aspect of my job is seeing my designs being realised and built. The satisfaction of knowing my designs are being used for their intended purpose is unbeatable.

'Travelling the world'

Name Angus Hall

Job Engineer

Employer Laing O'Rourke

Education Bachelor of Civil Engineering (2004)



The great advantage of working in construction is that you can travel the world. I'm Australian and came to Ireland upon finishing my degree. My first project was the N7 motorway and currently I am working at Dublin Airport on Pier D. This is a two-storey building and I'm responsible for the civil works outside the building including pipelines, electrical ducting and concrete structures.

Working on site

I split my time between site and the office, and I love the variety this brings. On site, I give direction to the labour force and 'set out' using surveying instruments. In the office I complete quality assurance work and review drawings. Time in the office also enables me to study things closely and discuss matters with the project engineer and other site engineers as on site things move at a rapid pace.

I must use problem-solving and teamworking abilities, think quickly and be accurate throughout my work. I also have to constantly plan ahead to ensure that a job is finished on time so the next stage of construction can begin.

Planning my own workload

Construction involves long hours – typically 7.00 am to 6.00 pm at the moment – but it's freeing to plan my own workload. It's also good to know you've made a difference to people's lives: for example, I still get a buzz when people say that the N7 is much improved. If you like the outdoors and enjoy taking on a new challenge every day I would highly recommend work in the construction industry.

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to find
your job**

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**for job alerts,
careers advice,
employer & sector
profiles & more!**

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first for graduate jobs and careers advice

Professional training and qualifications

You can develop your career through a professional qualification.

In construction, learning doesn't stop when you start work. Graduates pursue further studies either by becoming chartered in a professional institute or by specialising in a particular area by undertaking a postgraduate qualification, or both. There are a number of professional bodies in the construction industry: the route you take will depend on which one is most appropriate for your qualification, skills and career goals. To become chartered, you need to complete third-level qualifications which are accredited by your chosen profession. You can get a full list of accredited courses on the website of the relevant institution.

If you are not already a student member of a professional organisation, you should think about joining. It will not only look good on your CV but will also give you great opportunities to network with other students, graduates, employers and professionals. Becoming chartered doesn't mean resting on your laurels. Career development is lifelong and you will need to stay up to date with continuous professional development (CPD), which involves adapting to changes in working practices and technology, updating your technical skills and developing your management and commercial skills. Your professional institute (see list below) will have information.

- Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland **www.acei.ie** Represents the business and professional

interests of firms and individuals engaged in consulting engineering.

- Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists **www.ciat.org.uk** Represents over 8,000 professionals and is internationally recognised as the qualifying body for Chartered Architectural Technologists and Architectural Technicians. Website includes students' area.
- Chartered Institute of Building **www.ciob.org.uk** CIOB describes itself as the international voice of the building professional. Chartered Member status (MCIQB and FCIQB) is recognised internationally.
- Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers **www.cibse.org** and **www.cibseireland.org** CIBSE promotes the career of building services engineers and provides routes to full professional registration, including Chartered Engineer, Incorporated Engineer and Engineering Technician.
- Engineers Ireland **www.engineersireland.ie** Professional body representing all disciplines of engineering. The website includes a 'jobs and CVs' area.
- Irish Auctioneers and Valuers Institute **www.iavi.ie**
- Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors **www.ices.org.uk** ICES is an associated body of the Institution of Civil Engineers.
- Institution of Civil Engineers **www.ice.org.uk** A qualifying body, a centre for the exchange of specialist knowledge, and a provider of resources.

- Institute of Professional Auctioneers and Valuers **www.ipav.ie**
- Institution of Structural Engineers **www.istructe.org** Leading professional body for structural engineering with over 23,000 members around the world.
- Irish Property and Facility Management Association **www.ipfma.com** Provides for the education, training and professional development of its members
- Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland **www.riai.ie** The representative body for professionally qualified architects in Ireland.
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors **www.rics.org** Sets, maintains and regulates standards in the property industry.
- Society of Chartered Surveyors **www.scs.ie** The professional body for Chartered Surveyors practising in the Republic of Ireland. Some postgraduate courses undertaken by graduates with a number of years' work experience include quantity surveying, construction project management, facilities management and engineering courses. There are often funded research opportunities available in the universities and educational institutes.

Further information

- The Construction Industry Federation **www.cif.ie**
- The Construction Industry Training Board Northern Ireland **www.citbni.org.uk**