


Graduate Membership: Designed for success

The *Institution*
of *Structural*
Engineers

A large, illuminated steel structure, possibly a roller coaster or a bridge under construction, is shown at night. The structure is composed of dark steel beams and supports, with numerous bright lights illuminating it from within. The background is a dark sky with streaks of light, suggesting a fireworks display or a night sky. In the foreground, the silhouettes of several people are visible, looking up at the structure. The overall scene is dramatic and celebratory.

It's time to shape your future.

www.istructe.org/graduates

Make the best of an exciting new career

Congratulations. You've chosen one of the most exciting professions on earth. As a structural engineer you'll help to shape what our world looks like for generations to come.

You've chosen a career which offers an incredible variety of specialist paths. A job that will test and stretch you, but will always feel like more than 'just a job.'

There are several keys to success as a structural engineer. You need to stay on top of the latest skills and knowledge in an ever-evolving world. You need to build strong professional connections with great people. And you need to stand out in a crowded field.

The Institution of Structural Engineers was established to help engineers like you to do all those things and more. To connect you with people, ideas and opportunities that can make all the difference to your career. To be here for you at every step, until the day you retire.

When that day comes, you'll want to look back at a career well spent. Structural engineering is rich with potential to build a legacy to be proud of. We're here to help you do just that.

Your journey starts right here, right now. Becoming a Graduate Member of the Institution is a way to open doors and create opportunities. But it's more than that. It's an automatic boost to your employability. Before you attend one conference, download one webinar, or read one copy of our magazine, the simple fact that you're a member gives you an advantage. It tells your industry that you're serious about what you do.

As a graduate, you've achieved some great stuff. But your biggest and brightest achievements lie ahead. Let us help you make the best of them.

Get the most from this guide

Use this handy checklist to navigate your way through the advantages of Graduate Membership.

- ▶ To discover all the different specialist paths **your career** could take, turn to **page 4**.
- ▶ Find out about **courses, events and networking opportunities** we offer on **page 5**.
- ▶ Discover **awards and grants** you may be eligible for, and learn about skills support, on **page 6**.
- ▶ Learn about **job opportunities** and how membership can **enhance your CV** on **page 7**.
- ▶ To find out how to become a **Graduate Member** and understand the difference between **Chartered and Associate-Membership**, turn to **page 10**.
- ▶ Understand options for **Initial Professional Development** when you turn to **page 11**.
- ▶ Ready to get started on **becoming a Graduate Member**? Flick to the **end page** right now.



Still studying? Try free Student Membership.

As a Student Member of the Institution you'll get all kinds of great benefits. Discover more and sign up for free at www.istructe.org/students



Get ready for a world of opportunity

You understand the vital role a structural engineer plays in a design and construction project. But Graduate Members often tell us they're amazed by the variety of career paths to choose from.

After all, consider the sheer breadth of types of structure in the world – from new buildings to historic structures, from bridges to tunnels to facades and beyond. Now think about all the challenges different environments pose – from earthquakes to flooding, to extremes of heat and cold. And take a moment to ponder all the ways a structural engineer might contribute – from analytical modelling to academic research, to on-site engineering.

All of these factors offer you scope to specialise. Each has its own unique challenges and opportunities. And each career path might take you to different places around the globe.

- Q Are you keen to solve challenges related to sustainability and climate change?
- Q Would you be fascinated to investigate why and how structures go wrong?
- Q Do you want to help design buildings that stand strong through natural disasters?
- Q Are you ready to step in and help with emergency relief efforts?
- Q Do you enjoy the unique challenges of conserving and restoring historic buildings?
- Q Do you want to be known for pushing boundaries, with taller and longer structures?

Those are just a few questions to start you thinking about how you might specialise. As a Graduate Member of the Institution you'll have a real advantage in exploring the answers.

The benefits of membership

► Build knowledge and connections

As a Graduate Member you'll have a real advantage when it comes to discovering inspiring ideas and forging important relationships. That's because your membership comes with access to a wide range of courses, conferences and networking opportunities.

Structural Behaviour Course

We all learn from experience – and from mistakes. Choose to take our unique 200-question course and you'll enjoy the chance to explore a range of engineering problems, with no real world impact if you get things wrong. The experience is hugely valuable, especially because of the feedback you'll receive. Getting to grips with challenges in this way can really boost your career prospects.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses

CPD is a term you'll hear a lot in your career. That's because in a field as innovative as ours professional development never ends. We've partnered with leading experts, elite academic institutions, and trade and professional organisations to develop a range of CPD courses. From technical to professional to management skills, there's always something new to learn.

Events and conferences

As a member you'll get discounts on our varied programme of courses, meetings, seminars, lectures and events worldwide.

We give you excellent opportunities to grow your structural engineering knowledge, debate the latest research, and shape the future of our profession.

Organised by our Young Members' Panel, the Young Engineers' Conference is designed by young engineers, for young engineers. You can hear important speakers exploring the biggest issues in our profession, take part in interactive workshops, and much more. And if you're doing a PhD you'll relish the chance to present your insights at our Young Researchers' Conference.

Regional Groups

When you join the Institution we'll assign you to your closest Regional Group. Your Group will run its own exciting programme of events and networking opportunities, and give you support when you need it. You'll also join a Regional Young Members' Group, which gives you a platform to get involved in influencing the Institution's future direction. Each type of Group is also ideal for making friends and building professional connections.

► Stand out from the crowd

Early in your career, it's vital to start building a stand-out CV. But that can be challenging. So we're here to help.

Skills support

As a structural engineer, you'll find there's always something new to master. We'll help you keep up with changes in the industry and hone the latest technical skills.

That all begins with advice and guidance on your Initial Professional Development (see page 9). But we're also here to help with the 'soft skills' that will be so important in your career. That means everything from how you communicate, to how you can manage your time and get more done. We're here to help you maximise your chance of securing the jobs you apply for too.

Rewarding awards

As a Graduate Member you could be eligible for a host of competitions and awards. We want to give you exciting opportunities to make more of your development and set yourself apart in a competitive industry.

★ The Kenneth Severn Award

Every year, the Institution's President sets an essay question for young engineers, with a prize of £500 and the chance to be published in *The Structural Engineer* magazine.

★ The Pai Lin Li Travel Award

If you want to study new practice or trends in a different country, one of these grants lets you experience life and work abroad, alongside world experts.

★ Young Structural Engineering Professional Award

Showcase your skills, achievements and how you're driving the profession forward, and become an ambassador for the Institution.

★ Young Structural Engineers International Design Competition

Individuals and teams of young engineers respond to unique challenges, to create innovative design ideas.



► Access ideas and opportunities

As a Graduate Member you can tap into a wealth of knowledge and the latest job vacancies.

Essential Knowledge Series

You'll enjoy exclusive discounts on this series of concise, accessible study texts. Each one breaks down core principles of structural design, analysis and mechanics. No structural engineer should be without these, anywhere in the world.

Technical Guidance Notes

This completely free resource gives you the foundation of a structural engineering technical library. Written with recent graduates in mind, these notes are also invaluable refresher texts for more experienced engineers.

Library

Our library and e-library collections are extensive, providing you with access to a wealth of structural engineering knowledge and history. The collection ranges from the 18th century to the very latest research.

The Structural Engineer magazine

Our flagship publication features invaluable technical and professional guidance, as well as project case studies and debate around the issues that matter. Crucially, it also contains new job opportunities.

You'll look forward to your latest copy arriving – and you're sure to make the most of full online access to the e-archive too.

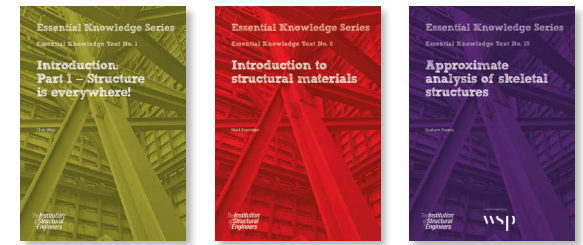
Online jobs board

We want to help you find a great job, every time you're looking. That's why we give you access to the latest vacancies throughout your career. You can search for structural engineering opportunities in all kinds of specialist areas at: jobs.thestructuralengineer.org

Online learning

There's a host of different ways to expand your professional knowledge online as a member - from completing one of our online CPD courses for engineers of all levels, through to watching a webinar recording of an Institution technical lecture, seminar or conference session.

We also offer a portfolio of online courses in partnership with BRE Academy, covering everything from health, safety and wellbeing, to sustainability, fire, legislation and business. As a Graduate Member, you'll get an unbeatable discount. Discover more at www.istructe.org/bre



Above: Essential Knowledge Series



Above: The Structural Engineer magazine



“To me being a Graduate Member of this Institution is truly rewarding. It has given me the opportunity to be involved in my Regional Group and therefore has opened the door to meeting so many interesting engineers within my region and from Headquarters. I hope to one day become MStructE and with a Graduate Membership I am halfway there.”

Tiffani Anton, Graduate Member

Become a Graduate Member

So when can you join us as a Graduate Member? Put simply, any time after finishing your degree. We suggest getting involved as soon as you can. You only get one chance to start your career. So why not make it the best start possible? Don't miss out on the difference membership can make.

Your degree and your choices

Join us if you've already completed a degree in any discipline within the built environment, scientific or engineering communities. We'll check that you've got the right grounding and can activate your membership straight away.

Professional membership

Graduate Membership is a stepping stone on the way to professional membership. Depending on your academic qualifications, you can progress towards becoming a Chartered Member (CEng MStructE) or Associate-Member (IEng AMStructE). So what's the difference?

Organisations around the world which recognise degree courses include:

- The Joint Board of Moderators (JBM)
- The Washington Accord
- The FEANI Register
- The Sydney Accord

▶ Chartered Engineers (CEng MStructE)

demonstrate a high level of conceptual design, with creative and innovative uses of new technology, and leadership skills.

▶ Incorporated Engineers (IEng AMStructE)

have a sound knowledge of core engineering principles and existing tech, and play a vital role within the engineering team.

If your degree course hasn't been accredited or recognised yet, you can still qualify to become a Graduate Member. How? First, apply for an academic assessment. Our Panel will review all your academic qualifications to make sure they meet the level we require. After that, we'll either confirm your eligibility or suggest next steps that will help you bridge the gap.

Introducing 'Initial Professional Development'

Your degree is the gateway to a career in structural engineering. And it's an achievement to be proud of. But once you graduate, you'll start working towards a whole new set of accomplishments. Career development is the exciting journey of a working lifetime.

We call the first stage of your career 'Initial Professional Development', or IPD for short. IPD is all about acquiring the incredible specialist knowledge and skills that you'll need to practise as a structural engineer. And it's about demonstrating your understanding and ability in action.

IPD has a number of defined core objectives. There's no set timescale for completing these, but most graduates take at least three or four years in the workplace to fulfil every goal. You can choose from three routes:

- ▶ **Individually Managed Route:** you'll have a mentor, such as a line manager at work, who will guide and support you through your IPD
- ▶ **Accredited Training Scheme Route:** you'll follow an approved learning path such as schemes under the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers or the Institution of Civil Engineers
- ▶ **Retrospectively Collated Route:** you'll take responsibility for assembling your own body of evidence, proving that you've satisfied the IPD objectives

As a Graduate Member you can look forward to lots of support to complete this exciting journey. You'll have access to archives of knowledge, plus great training opportunities and guidance.

Your employer will be able to help, but membership of the Institution gives you a definitive advantage. After all, IPD is just the start. As a structural engineer, you'll never stop developing. And we'll always be here to support you.



It's time to join us

Your future begins when you graduate. Becoming a Graduate Member is a real commitment to making sure your future is an amazing one.

You've read about the range of specialist career paths you might choose to follow. You know that every professional journey begins with Initial Professional Development. And you understand exactly how membership of the Institution can help you meet every fresh goal along the way.

From access to learning and friendship building opportunities, to news of great jobs and so much else, membership can make a difference to your career from day one. What's more, if you're already a Student Member, and studying civil or structural engineering, we'll automatically upgrade you to Graduate Membership when you finish your studies. And your first year will be free.

We're looking forward to being there for you at every stage of your career. We'll be proud to do so.

► **Becoming a Graduate Member is a simple process.**

Start right now at

www.istructe.org/graduates

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