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The Bureau of Labor Statistics states that civil engineering is the largest of all the field's specialties. As of 2008, there were over 278,000 of them out of 1.6 million engineers in the U.S. As it stands, President Obama pushed through a multi-billion dollar national stimulus package last year, which green lights the construction of a number of public works from highways to power plants and our energy infrastructure. The result will be a need for even more civil engineers in the next decade and there is an emphasis on online education for this high tech knowledge field.

Civil engineers are people who design and supervise the construction of anything from a skyscraper to a super highway to a private home. This doesn't just include the brick and mortar, but ventilation, plumbing, even the sidewalk. They also have to juggle the project against the expected lifetime of the project, federal to local government bylaws, and possible hazards such as from natural disasters to, these days, sabotage. If you need more information about [on line degree programs](#), look on the internet.

In many ways, this form of engineering should be considered one of the oldest ones; pretty much coming into creation the first time our ancient ancestors started building aqueducts, roads and monuments. The field now divides into arenas of specialization including water resources, transportation, structural, construction and geotechnical engineering. They work in a decision-making capacity, from managing a construction site to overall urban planning. Others work in design, research, and teaching positions in what might be considered a more theoretical capacity.

The Bureau also states that job growth in the civil engineering field is going to be exceptionally higher than average, with an expected need of 24% more than what is currently available by 2018. A major reason for this is a recent stimulus initiative proposed by Obama this January. It projects \$10.5 billion that will mainly go towards five different professions; with civil engineering being the first of the five. They will be employed in upgrading and just plain building new roads and other public structures.

A high school student interested in the field should have a strong proclivity for math and the natural sciences. A civil engineer should be comfortable with both CAD and a t-square and drawing table. Internships and work-study programs are highly encouraged while an underclassmen. One place where one can put all this together in one package is in the military, particularly the U.S. Corp of Engineers, oftimes a career in and of itself.

Education is not done once one graduates with a Bachelor's of Science. There is still professional certification from the American Society of Civil Engineers. It's highly advised getting one to two years of work experience before going for the certification exam. Enrolling in an online college program is a good way to get this done because virtual education most resembles the CAD-based world civil engineers work in and have the easiest time staying up to date with the most current innovations. Most civil engineers these days usually work with Master's degrees and even some doctoral work. There is an abundance of information about [information technology degree](#) on the web.

A STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) profession, those looking for financial assistance can get more than just Pell grants. They apply for S-STEM aid for starters. The military and private corporations also have their share of grants. For a more complete picture of this, one should consult with a financial aid advisor, both college and military if one is considering this route.

No matter how you look at it, civil engineering is a career one can build on and an [online education](#) can get you there. Since computers play such a large part in everything technical these days, getting an [online computer science degree](#) might just be a smart decision toward a great career.

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