

Why i want to become a civil engineer essay sample

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Why I decided to major in Civil Engineering? Last Year around this time, I did not know the answer to this question myself. I was confused when it came to choosing a career. I still had the questions in my mind when I was asked to write this five-page paper. Then, I got a job at an engineering firm, a firm that involves the construction of buildings, roads, and bridges. They also deal with storm and drainage sewers. As I looked into engineering, I decided that I liked many of the characteristics involved with civil engineering. Although I knew the education would be difficult, I was determined that civil engineering is the career that I wanted to practice. So I asked myself what is civil engineering? This career cannot be defined with a single definition from me but there are many barriers that a woman civil engineer must overcome and it covers an immeasurable area of responsibilities.

Civil engineers design, plan, construct, and operate projects that meet basic human satisfaction. Civil engineers solve real world problems with the combination of applying mathematics, natural sciences, and common sense. Before deciding to pursue a career in civil engineering, I had a change of mind on many occasions my first major was industrial engineering then I decided that I was right for civil engineering. Most young girls can be found occupying their childhood time with dolls and having teatime. But not me I was playing in the dirt and building things with the boys instead of just playing with baby dolls. As a child I received enjoyment from planning events, designing school projects, and constructing special activities. At times I have realized that I have the ability to see and understand how the intelligent use of nature has made our society today and possible I have the desire to want to fix the problems. As a child Barbie dolls filled my toy box,

and arts and crafts filled my basement. I enjoy the challenge of making things and being in charge of bringing it to life. Having a young passion for the work of a civil engineer leads me to believe I could succeed in this field.

The education of a civil engineer deals mainly with math and natural sciences. The first four semesters of curriculum required, which I have taken at Southern Polytechnic State University, are the basics such as literature, Calculus I, English, speech, history, chemistry, and STS. Next semester I will begin my studies in my major civil engineering classes. Classes such as hydraulics, statics, and strength of materials, are required to give an engineer a base to help solve problems in real world situations. By taking classes such as these and working at my current job, I will be more prepared to face any problems encountered on the job. I am blessed as a student to be able to study engineering and support myself at the same time. But I? m even luckier to already be employed with an engineering firm making really good money and attending school at the same time. The close relationship I have between school and the civil engineering industry is important because both continue to educate me. I hope that the knowledge I will gain from both work and school will lead me into a successful career as an engineer.

Civil engineers use their knowledge of physics, engineering theory, and calculus to formulate, construct, and maintain our substantial surroundings. A public works engineer must anticipate and be responsive to the social needs of the people. A structural engineer, who is concerned with loads to which the structure is exposed, they must calculate the maximum load that the structure is able to hold. My company starts a young, inexperienced

engineer out with few responsibilities. As I gain experience, I will also gain additional responsibilities provided by my supervisors.

The practice of civil engineering pays the lowest salary of all engineering fields. However, over the past few years, civil engineering graduates have seen an increase in their starting salaries. The average annual starting salary, according to an article in the Toledo Blade, is \$30, 818 dollars and as of right now without an engineering degree I make a lot more than that. So deciding to pursue a career in civil engineering is not based on the money. Instead, I obtain satisfaction from the good done by helping to meet the social and profitable needs of the people. Being able to see results from my work is what interests me the most.

The mission of creating a more efficient and safer way of producing and transporting people and things in Atlantas ever-increasing population is just one of the problems I hope to resolve as a civil engineer. One of hardest decisions I made in my choosing civil engineering as a career was the acceptance of earning a lower salary. However, I have starting searching around and getting familiar with the higher playing companies that I work around now. There are many different specialties involved with civil engineering that need to be considered when choosing this career. Some of these specialties are transportation engineering, structural building, and sanitary sewers. A closer look into all of the fields lead me to the conclusion of specializing in transportation. This occupation is concerned with the safe and adequate transportation of people.

Currently, I am employed by Thacker/Gibbs and Im contracted out to the City of Atlanta Roads and Brides Department. My work duties are in the area of my specialization of engineering that I plan to study, which is transportation. One of the tasks of a Transportation Engineer may involve constructing roads and bridges, and designing sidewalks. I have so far been involved in the completion of two bridges Lakewood Avenue and the Hollywood bridge. Many predictions are made about the future of engineering students. It is predicted that employment would be no problem for engineering students and that engineers are needed daily. However, working in the field of civil engineering the job market is not that bad but the cost of pay is horrible. Many students and current engineers feel that they will be able to find jobs. Progression is almost certain as a young engineer expands his or her skills and as the employer gains confidence in his or her ability to produce good work. Some civil engineers might stay with a company their entire practiced lives as engineers or upon the advancement, retirement, and replacement of more experienced engineers, the younger engineers will have the chance to slowly move their way up the corporate ladder.

In conclusion, of a go-getting, young, and qualified engineer in training like myself I plan to seek advancements both personally and professionally. I choose to want to be a civil engineer because I have a desire for new challenges; the desire to help out our society, and the need to do something positive with my life are the three main reasons that I want to be a civil engineer. After changing my major once or twice, I have decided that civil engineering is an ideal field for me. I believe that I have the personal attributes and intelligence required to be a civil engineer. I also

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believe that I possess the work habits and drive to be a successful engineer.
This is why I have chosen to follow this as a career.