

Becoming an Engineering Technician (EngTech) through the Energy Institute

- ✓ **What becoming an EngTech could mean for you**
- ✓ **The standards you will need to meet**
- ✓ **How to apply**
- ✓ **What you can do now if you aren't yet ready to apply**

Why become an Engineering Technician?

Becoming an Engineering Technician through the EI recognises that you have the skills, knowledge, understanding and integrity to practice as an engineering technician in the energy sector. It gives formal recognition of your professional know-how.

Many employers look for professional qualifications as an indication of quality and commitment when looking to recruit new staff – the EngTech title demonstrates that you have the competence, expertise and work ethic that they value.

About the EngTech title

Engineering Technicians working in energy apply proven techniques and procedures to the solution of practical engineering problems. They may contribute to designing, developing, manufacturing, commissioning, decommissioning, operating or maintaining products, equipment, processes or services. They will have some supervisory or technical responsibility, as well as effective interpersonal skills. They are comfortable with technology and safe systems of working, and they understand principles of sustainability.

What are the requirements for EngTech?

To successfully apply for registration as an Engineering Technician, you will need to demonstrate that you have **both** of the following:

- appropriate **foundation theoretical knowledge** in engineering and
- **competence and commitment** – that you have the skills and experience in the workplace to practice to a competent, nationally recognised standard as an engineering technician in energy - and you are personally and professionally committed to your profession and wider society, and carry out responsibilities in an ethical manner.

The standards against which you will be assessed for Engineering Technician are set by the Engineering Council in a document called the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence and Commitment ([UK-SPEC](#)).

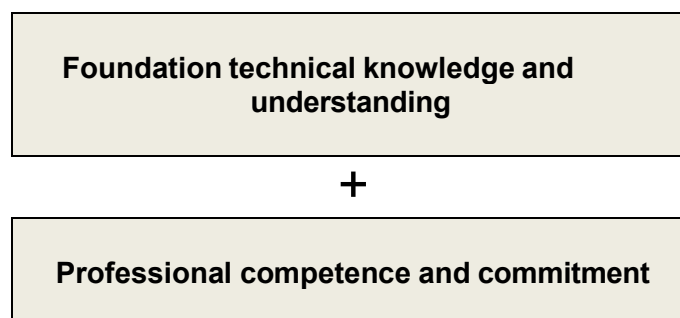


Fig 1. Requirements for qualifying as an Engineering Technician

Demonstrating your foundation theoretical knowledge

The approved educational standard for EngTech is as follows:

- An Advanced/Modern Apprenticeship or other work-based learning programme approved by a licensed professional engineering institution, or
- a qualification, approved by a licensed professional engineering institution, in engineering or construction set at level 3 (or above) in the Qualifications and Credit Framework/National Qualifications Framework for England and Northern Ireland; or at level 6 (or above) in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework; or at level 3 (or above) in the Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales.

Automatically recognised or accredited qualifications

Some qualifications or combinations of qualifications are automatically recognised as evidence that you meet the foundation technical knowledge, skills and understanding you will need to demonstrate to become an Engineering Technician. This is because they have been approved by the Engineering Council or are recognised via an international agreement.

If you studied in the UK, you can check whether your qualifications are accredited by the Engineering Council by visiting the course search page on the [Engineering Council's website](#).

If you studied outside the UK, your qualifications may also be automatically recognised if the qualification is approved by one of the countries which have signed up to the [Dublin Accord](#).



What if I am not sure about the status of my qualifications?

The above websites should help, but if you still aren't sure, you can apply for **Interim Registration** with the EI, and we will check them for you before advising what to do next. Interim Registration certifies that you have the foundation technical knowledge for a particular professional title, are committed to your progression and have taken the first step towards becoming fully qualified.

Other qualifications, training and experience

Not everyone has approved or automatically recognised qualifications - energy is very diverse and so it is not unusual to come into energy engineering with a range of different qualifications, backgrounds and experience.

If you don't have approved or recognised qualifications, that's no problem: you can still apply to become an Engineering Technician. You will first need to apply for **Interim Registration** so that we can review all your qualifications, experience and any training you have undertaken under our individual case procedure.

The process is simple: Complete the Interim Registration application form. Based on the information you have given us, we will then ask you to provide more detailed information

about how you have covered the foundation technical knowledge required - for example through your other qualifications and/or experience. This will then be assessed by our Individual Case Procedure (ICP) Panel. The ICP Panel will review all the information you have submitted in detail. They will then either confirm that you have demonstrated you meet the standard, or provide you with further guidance on any gaps you will need to address to meet the foundation technical knowledge requirements for engineering.

You can apply for Interim Registration at any time, but it can be advisable to do so as soon as you can so that you are not delayed, particularly if you have a lot of experience already and hope to go on to achieve EngTech relatively soon.

Demonstrating your professional competence and commitment

In addition to the appropriate foundation theoretical knowledge, you will need to show that have undertaken sufficient practical experience and professional development in the workplace to be able to apply your knowledge, skills and understanding to a competent standard.

The specific standards of competence and commitment (or 'competences') you will need to show are detailed in an Engineering Council document called [UK-SPEC](#). As part of your application, you will need to show how you meet the standards for EngTech in UK-SPEC specifically in the context of energy, by completing a **competence grid**. This is Part B of the application form, and is a simple document where you relate your experience to the competences and explain how you have met those competences, giving examples. You will find it in the application pack.

You will also need to have read the Engineering Council's CPD [Code for Registrants](#) and the Engineering Council and the Royal Academy of Engineering's [Statement of Ethical Principles](#) and the [EI's Code of Conduct](#) (for those who are also joining the EI for the first time as members).

UK-SPEC and other documents related to professional registration are updated from time to time, so if you have printed this information note for your reference, you should always check our website and/or the Engineering Council for updates before you make your application.

Professional membership of the EI

To become qualified as an Engineering Technician via the Energy Institute, you will also need to hold professional membership, as either a **Member (MEI)** or **Fellow (FEI)**.

Therefore, if you aren't already a professional member of the EI, you must apply for MEI or FEI first. You can find more information about how to apply on the EI's [website](#).

Making your application

You can download the application pack for EngTech from the membership section of the EI website at www.energyinst.org/membership-and-accreditation/membership. The pack includes the application form, guidance on how to apply and all the templates you will need to complete. The application form is divided into two sections:

Part A

Part A asks you to provide basic information about you, including your reason for applying, your contact details, qualifications, career history and where you currently sit within your organisation.

You will also need to provide evidence of your continuing professional development (CPD) and a statement giving an overview of how you have developed your energy career to date.

At the end of the form, you are asked to sign a declaration that the contents of your application are accurate, you accept the Terms and Conditions of Membership (including the EI's Privacy Policy) and agree to be bound by the EI's Code of Conduct, as well as any conditions of registration set by the Engineering Council.

Part B

Part B is the competence grid, where you will need to give details of how you have met each competence for EngTech registration, offering specific and relevant examples.

You will need to attach evidence for some sections of the form.

Don't forget that you are applying for a qualification which focuses on your professionalism, so it's essential that you follow the application guidelines and supply all the information requested. All professional qualifications require the ability to communicate effectively, so make sure your communication skills are demonstrated in the way you put together your application. There is more information on how to complete the application form in the guidance document in the application pack.

When do I need to apply?

You can submit your application anytime but there are six application deadlines each year, which feed into specific meetings of the EI's Professional Registration Panel. You will find information on the next deadline in the membership section of the EI website.



How do I know when I am ready to apply?

There is no set amount of experience you need to have before you can apply – everyone is different, and the type of work and development opportunities you'll have will also vary from person to person. The most important thing is that you can show you meet the standards and competences for EngTech registration. Discussing your application with peers or a mentor can often help.

What happens next?

We'll acknowledge your application within 5 working days of receipt and ask you to pay the application fee online.

Once your fee is received, the Professional Membership Team will check that your application is complete and will then send it on to our assessors. The assessors will review your application and determine whether, on paper, you have provided sufficient evidence in relation to the EngTech title and the specific competences.

The assessors will then make a recommendation to the next meeting of the EI's Professional Registration Panel, which oversees all applications for professional registration. The decision of the Panel will be either:

- you should be admitted without interview; or
- you should be asked to attend a professional interview; or
- you should be asked to provide further information before the application can proceed, or
- based on the evidence you have submitted, you have not demonstrated that you meet the standards. In this case, the Panel will provide feedback to indicate the areas of competence that you have not demonstrated in your application, and may recommend more learning and experience before you reapply.

We will write to you within 7 working days to confirm the Panel's decision.

If you are invited to attend a professional interview

If you are invited to attend a professional interview, this will normally be held virtually on MS Teams. It will generally take between 45 and 75 minutes and we will write to you in advance giving you more information.

The interview will take into account your experience, career history and the content in your written application. It will explore how you have demonstrated the standards of competence and commitment for EngTech. This includes the Codes of Conduct and guidelines relevant to EngTech status.

Not yet ready to apply? Things you can do now...

It may take a few years to develop your applied knowledge and get enough practical experience in energy engineering to be able to meet all the competences for EngTech. There is no set period within which you need to get qualified, and it is entirely fine to work at your own pace.

However, there are a few things you can do now to put yourself in the best possible position to move forward when you are ready. Here are some suggestions, in no particular order:

1. Join the EI ✓	Become an EI member as soon as you can. Associate Member of the EI (AMEI) is the EI's membership grade for those who are intending to work towards a professional title or registration. As an AMEI, you will have access to resources, discounts, networking and support right from the start – and you will be awarded your first post nominals, which you can use professionally in your CV and in job applications.
2. Get networking ✓	Attend as many professional events as possible and get involved with your regional branch or Young Professionals Network (YPN). Networking will help develop your knowledge and broaden your perspective - and getting involved will give you access to learning, new experiences and maybe even new friendships.
3. Make sure you know the standards ✓	Make sure you understand the competences and requirements for EngTech. UK-SPEC is the key reference point describing the standard of practice, including competence and commitment required for professional engineers in the UK. Download a copy from the Engineering Council's website and read it carefully.

<p>4. Work on your knowledge</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>Take every opportunity to learn about the energy sector, energy system and wider society. Read about the latest technologies, talk to colleagues and find out their views, and look for other opportunities to expand your knowledge and widen your perspective.</p> <p>All this learning counts as Continuing Professional Development (CPD), which you will need to demonstrate in your application. For more information on how to approach your CPD, read the EI's CPD booklet, '<i>The Best You Can Be</i>' in the CPD section of the EI website. There are also CPD templates you can download to record your learning and development, ready for when you apply.</p>
<p>5. Sign up for updates</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>The EI and the Engineering Council provide regular news bulletins and updates. Make sure you are signed up so that you get the latest news on the sector as well as updates which may affect the registrations you already hold or for which you are applying.</p>
<p>6. Get a mentor or critical friend</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>It can often be helpful to work with a more experienced professional who is happy to act as a mentor or sounding board, especially as you get closer to making your application. Ask them to review what you have written and perhaps give you a mock professional interview. They may be willing to act as your sponsor too. If there is no one suitable in your company, your branch may be able to help. Sign up to EI Connect – the EI's mentoring platform.</p>
<p>7. Apply for interim registration</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>As described earlier in this guide, Interim registration certifies that you already have the foundation technical knowledge you need for professional registration as an engineer. If you don't have accredited or recognised qualifications, it makes sense to apply for Interim Registration with the EI as soon as you are ready.</p>
<p>8. Start collecting your evidence</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>Review the competences and start gathering evidence as you go along so that when you come to complete the competence grid as part of your application, you already have examples and notes to refer to. The EI offers a free online tool, 'MyCareerPath', to help you to do this and keep your evidence in order.</p>

9. Sign up to one of our webinars



We run regular webinars to explain the process to get qualified and help you get started. Visit the EI website to sign up for the next one or watch the last recorded one.

10. Get in touch!



We are here to help! If there is anything you aren't sure about, get in touch with us on +44(0)20 7467 7100 or email membership@energyinst.org

Some key documents and links

There are a number of documents you will need to refer to while putting together your application, and/or which you will be expected to be aware of and adhere to if your application is successful and you are granted professional membership or registration. You may also be asked about them specifically in your interview, including how they affect your practice and conduct as a professional.

Please be aware that these documents will be updated from time to time, so you should check for updates before you make your application. To help you keep up to date, we recommend that you join the EI and sign up to our regular updates, and to those produced by the Engineering Council.

- **The EI Code of Professional Conduct**

The [EI Code of Conduct](#) describes the standards of conduct you must abide by as a member of the Energy Institute. A breach of the code could lead to disciplinary procedures being brought against you.

- **UK-SPEC**

Produced by the Engineering Council, the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence ([UK-SPEC](#)) sets out the competence and commitment required for registration as an Engineering Technician (EngTech), Incorporated Engineer (IEng) and Chartered Engineer (CEng). It also includes examples of activities that demonstrate the required competences.

- **Statement of Ethical Principles**

Produced by the Engineering Council and the Royal Academy for Engineering, the [Statement of Ethical Principles](#) guides engineering practice and behavior, and should be read in conjunction with the EI's Code of Professional Conduct.

- **CPD Code for Registrants**

All Engineering Council registrants make a commitment to maintain and enhance their competence. The [Code](#) explains the requirements for CPD in more detail.