MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, B.S. (ALTOONA)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Altoona

Career Paths

University Park: Penn State's mechanical engineering curriculum offers many opportunities to gain hands-on experience in the profession. At the University Park campus, our experiential laboratory components and design course sequence are tailored to prepare you to enter industry or graduate school. The design component of the curriculum culminates in an industry-sponsored senior design project, in which you'll work in a multidisciplinary team to solve a real-world issue. Our laboratory course encourages higher-order thinking skills. Students explore fundamental mechanical engineering knowledge through the lens of solving real-world problems in topics such as energy and sustainability, autonomy and robotics, and machine learning.

Penn State Scranton: Penn State Scranton is one of only five campuses that offer the mechanical engineering major. The Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering provides students with the necessary training and education to become technical leaders in various industrial, commercial, consulting, and governmental organizations.

Careers

University Park: Penn State's mechanical engineering program at the University Park campus has had a long and successful history. Mechanical engineering was introduced at Penn State in 1881. Graduates from our department go on to work in a diverse range of industries for large multinational companies and small local firms. Mechanical engineers are well prepared to work as managers due to their broad backgrounds and creative problem-solving skills. Historically, our graduates regularly accept positions at Fortune 500 companies, such as Ingersoll Rand, Boeing, Toshiba-Westinghouse, General Electric, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Dow Chemical, ExxonMobil, Procter & Gamble, United Technologies Corporation, and Johnson & Johnson.

Penn State Scranton: The mechanical engineering program at Penn State Scranton prepares you for entering the mechanical engineering industry or going on to graduate school. Mechanical engineering is called "*the mother of all engineering majors*" for a reason; it gives the student exposure to many different disciplines. Mechanical engineering graduates get jobs in many different types of industries both locally, nationally, and globally. Examples of career opportunities for mechanical engineers are:

- design engineers
- research engineers
- biomedical equipment
- analyst
- entrepreneur
- test engineer
- rocket engineer
- project manager
- sales engineer

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics mechanical engineers earn an average starting salary of $70,000 and mid-career salary of $100,000.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING PROGRAM (https://www.me.psu.edu/students/undergraduate/what-is-an-engineer.aspx#MechanicalEngineer)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

University Park: If you want to work with renowned faculty, scientists, and engineers, the Department of Mechanical Engineering located at the University Park campus is a great place for you. We are one of the nation's largest engineering departments with more than 60 full-time faculty, numerous research staff, visiting faculty, scientists, and more than 300 graduate students. Research funding comes from industry and government sources, including the Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, the Army, the Air Force, and NASA. Our graduates are known for their ability to find high-level positions in national research centers and laboratories as well as postdoctoral and tenure-track positions in top-tier research universities.

Penn State Scranton: Mechanical Engineering graduates of Penn State Scranton campus are eligible to continue for a master's degree at many US colleges and universities.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (https://www.me.psu.edu/research/)

Professional Resources

- American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) (https://sites.psu.edu/asmeuniversitypark/)
- Professional Licensure/Certification Disclosures by State (https://opair.psu.edu/plc/dashboard/)