

## Electrical Engineer



Bernadette  
Robertson

I am a New Zealand born Samoan with my father having distant Scottish relations (hence my surname). I attended McAuley High School in Otahuhu, Auckland and enjoyed subjects like Science (Year 11), Physics and Biology (Year 12 and 13). Before heading to University, I thought of studying Medicine and becoming a doctor, but was afraid of the long years of commitment for study and wasn't sure if I would be at a disadvantage having not taken Chemistry.

In the end, I studied a Bachelor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the University of Auckland city campus and graduated in 2015. This led me to a career in the Transmission and High Voltage industry. I now work for Transpower Ltd who own, maintain and operate the National Grid (NZ's electricity transmission system).

I found Science a strong subject for me in high school and this motivated me to further pursue a career in it. Once I identified what Engineering was in my Physics class, the aspect of designing and creating a solution that in turn provides for the community encouraged me to join this field, as it relates back to my values.

### Pathway:

- Year 11-13 subjects: Science, Physics and Biology
- Bachelor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering – University of Auckland

# Electrical Engineer

[www.careers.govt.nz](http://www.careers.govt.nz)

Electrical engineers specify, design and supervise the construction or manufacture of systems and equipment that produce, distribute and/or use electricity. They also maintain, operate and manage these systems and equipment.

## Pay

Electrical engineers with one to five years' experience can earn **\$40K-\$60K per year**

Experienced electrical engineers usually earn **\$60K-\$120K per year**

## Job opportunities



The chances of getting a job as an electrical engineer are good due to high demand for their services.

## Secondary education

To enter tertiary training, a university entrance qualification (NCEA Level 3) is usually required. Useful subjects include maths with calculus, technology, physics and chemistry

## Length of training

4 years training usually required

