Electrical Engineer

Randall Ah Mu

I am of Samoan descent. After working for a year to save money, then two years serving as a volunteer missionary for my church, I attended the University of Auckland Engineering School studying Electrical and Electronic engineering. I was also an active participant in the South Pacific Indigenous Engineering Students (SPIES) program for Māori and Pasifika students. I graduated with an Honours degree and went on to do further studies while working full time, gaining a postgraduate certificate in Illumination Engineering from the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) and recently a Master of Business Administration (MBA) with distinction from the Edinburgh Business School at Heriot-Watt University.

My career path has led me from being an Electrical Engineer consultant at Beca and SKM, to a sales engineering role at Modus Lighting and then into Construction Project Management for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Trust Board. I was promoted to the role of Area Projects Manager for the Pacific Area, heading up a team of Project Managers. The role covers a wide geographical area and I recently decided to move up to Whangarei for a better work/life balance. I chose STEM subjects as I always enjoyed learning how things worked and being able to create things, and my life has definitely been blessed as a consequence.

Pathway:

- Year 13 subjects: Calculus, Chemistry, English, PE, Physics, Statistics (Auckland Grammar School)
- University of Auckland: Bachelor of Engineering (Honours), Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Auckland University of Technology: Postgraduate in Illumination Engineering

Electrical Engineer

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 usually earn
$40-$60K per year

Experienced electrical engineers usually earn
$60-$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