My NASA Data - STEM Career Connections

ENGINEERING: Mechanical Engineer

Education

Mechanical engineers typically require a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering or mechanical engineering technology. All states and the District of Columbia require mechanical engineers who sell services to the public to be licensed.

Related Fields

- Aerospace Engineer Link
- Automotive Engineer Link
- Contracting Civil Engineer Link
- Control and Instrumentation Engineer Link
- Nuclear Engineer Link
Work Description

Mechanical engineers design, develop, build, and test mechanical and thermal sensors and devices including tools, engines, and machines. These are essential systems in platforms in NASA's Earth Science missions, like satellite and airborne missions. Mechanical engineers work mostly in engineering services, research and development, and manufacturing.

Mechanical engineers have skills that are generally adaptable to most disciplines, and so they are greatly sought after. This field of engineering requires creativity, as it is essential to innovation. These tasks require advanced mathematics and analytical abilities. Mechanical engineers also need communication skills as they work with clients on their constraints and criteria. Finally, problem-solving skills are crucial...no matter the field or discipline.

Why is this job Important?

Mechanical Engineering has a critical role in the development and functioning of technologies like sensors on engines, satellites, planes, elevators, or even air conditioners. Many of today's modern technologies were developed by mechanical engineers, so without them we would not be able to use these technologies every day.

Salary Range

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$75,000 - $100,000

NASA Connections

Job Title NASA Examples:

- Mechanical Engineer, Research Engineer, Facilities
- NASA Occupations Link
- NASA Internships, Fellowships, & Volunteering Pathways Link
- NASA Volunteers Link
- Working for NASA Link

NASA Career Links:

- NASA Careers Link
- NASA Internships & Fellowships Pathways Link
- NASA Student Volunteer Program Link
- Working for NASA Link