

# Year in Industry Programme



The **Year in Industry programme** allows students to spend a year in industry as part of their degree. By spending a year on an industrial placement, they will gain valuable work experience and evidence of applying their engineering skills, *i.e.* putting theory into practice. The Year in Industry gives students an opportunity to find out what working in engineering/as a computer scientist is really like, and is an opportunity for a company to potentially offer a job to a student after graduation. It will also give companies an insight into new engineering technologies being developed and a link with an engineering department within the University of Sheffield.

- 1. When do companies need to submit ideas by?** Companies can advertise their placement/internship vacancies throughout the academic year but the best time for advertising is the beginning of the autumn (September - November) and spring (February – March) semesters. Please plan your activities within our current students' schedules, *i.e.* avoid advertising at the end of the semester or during exam sessions: check our [Semester Dates](#). The later the position is advertised, the fewer there are students still looking for a placement.
- 2. What are the start/end dates for the project or placement?** Most placements start after the exam sessions (please refer to the Semester Dates link above) and start dates vary from July to September. The minimum duration of the placement is 38 weeks, and in any case, should be completed by the end of September of the following year, *i.e.* before the start of the following academic year.
- 3. What are the costs of hosting a student?** This is the same cost as for young professional employment, which includes as salary to a student plus any other associated costs. Companies don't pay a fee to the university. At the end of the placement, line managers are asked to attend an end of placement poster presentation. Travel and accommodation costs for this event are covered by the company. The event is optional.
- 4. What types of projects are acceptable?** Projects should take advantage of the skills of the student and be relevant to one of the engineering disciplines being offered by the university: **mechanical, electrical, control systems, civil, materials, aerospace, bioengineering** or **computer science**. The project needs to help the student along their path to achieve Chartered Engineering status, meaning that it must offer at least two of four requirements below:
  - Allow the students to use a combination of general and specialist engineering knowledge and understanding to optimise the application of existing and emerging technology
  - Apply appropriate theoretical and practical methods to the analysis and solution of engineering problems
  - Provide technical and commercial leadership
  - Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills
- 5. Do I need to complete any paperwork or do anything else?** Yes, several forms need completing:
  - Tripartite Agreement Letter: this describes mutual expectations between the placement provider, student and the university
  - Health and Safety information

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- Ad hoc replies to our monitoring attendance emails (approx. once in 3-4 months)
- Complete a feedback form at the end of the placement

The company needs to facilitate a visit from a placement tutor from the university towards the middle of the placement

6. **Who do I need to contact to offer a placement?** Faculty of Engineering placement tutor on [engineering-placements@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:engineering-placements@sheffield.ac.uk), 0114 222 9733

**Feedback from companies** on placements is very positive:

*“You did a fantastic job over the last two weeks and handled the pressure extremely well. I will thank the whole team later, but you deserve special recognition of all your efforts, composure and enthusiasm throughout the whole process. A real ‘star of the future’ in whatever career you decide to apply yourself to”.*

**UK automotive company**

*“Alex has surpassed expectation throughout his time here. His work ethic and interpersonal skills have enabled him to get the job done and also to effectively lead the project team. Alex's performance has meant that he has been able to take on responsibilities far beyond that expected of a candidate at this level - he has certainly set the bar high for future candidates.”* **International aerospace company**

*“Michael was given his own projects and responsibilities which he completed to a good level. He worked independently with continuous information flow and feedback with his manager. Michael offered good contribution which supported the delivery of his team’s objectives. Michael also showed a lot of eagerness to learn, deliver and flexibility and demonstrated good initiative. Michael was able to take on important project lead responsibilities within the team. This benefited the team as it allowed us to deliver and achieve key goals”.* **UK luxury car manufacturer**