

Lift Engineer

Introduction

As a Lift Engineer, you will be carrying out routine checks and making repairs on the lifts that you service.

Also known as

- Elevator Engineer
- Lift Field Service Engineer



Work Activities

As a Lift Engineer, you will be going out to different firms and servicing or fixing the lifts in the building.

You could also be responding to emergencies such as people getting stuck in the lift or it has broken down.

Lift Engineers will usually have to write up reports on each lift they attend, to keep accurate records.

You could also be demonstrating new equipment to clients. This could be showing clients on different ways refurbishing or replacing items such as:

- new lift interiors
- flooring
- panel displays
- communication systems
- buttons and lighting

Risk assessments are also one of the duties that Lift Engineers will have to carry out as part of the normal service.

If it does not meet the standards then you may have to install and fit new equipment, flooring or lift wells to get it to a safe standard. The risk assessments will include writing reports, legal and insurance documents for the company that you are working for as well.

Being able to read, write and speak Welsh may be an advantage when you're looking for work in Wales.

Personal Qualities and Skills

To become a Lift Engineer, you will need:

- to be able to work as part of a team
- comfortable working in small spaces
- good communication skills
- to have good organisation skills
- excellent problem solving skills
- have experience working with computer aided design
- good written communication skills
- to be able to stay calm and work well under pressure
- a willingness to take responsibility on each lift you service

Pay and Opportunities

Pay

The pay rates below are approximate.

- Starting: £22,000 - £25,000
- With experience: £28,000 - £34,500
- Senior Lift Engineers earn £38,000 - £42,500

Hours of work

Most Lift Engineers work around 35-40 hours a week, Monday to Friday. However, early starts, late finishes and weekend work may be required.

You could be working in spaces that are oily, dirty and confined, so you need to be able to work in these cramped conditions, especially in older lifts.

Where could I work?

Employers could be a lift servicing agency or you could be working in a particular firm working in the maintenance department.

Opportunities for Lift Engineers occur with employers throughout the UK.

Self Employment

Opportunities occur for experienced Lift Engineers to work independently as consultants.

Where are vacancies advertised?

Vacancies are advertised in local/national newspapers, trade industry publications, at Jobcentre Plus and on the Find a Job website.

Vacancies can also be found through specialist engineering recruitment agencies, internet job boards and the websites of professional engineering bodies.

GreenJobs is a job board aimed at people interested in green careers:

www.greenjobs.co.uk/browse-jobs/engineering/

Entry Routes and Training

Entry Routes

Lift Engineers usually complete a relevant engineering degree.

An Advanced Level or Degree Apprenticeship is also a great place to start. Take a look at our information article 'Apprenticeships – How do I apply', for more details about applying for apprenticeship positions.

There are a large number of courses in lift/mechanical engineering. Some courses are combined, for example, with manufacturing engineering.

A great way to get into this career is through an internship. Take a look at our information article 'Internships', for more details.

Training

To become a Lift Engineer, you could gain status from Chartered Engineer or Incorporated Engineer professions. This could make you stand out from the crowd!

To register as a Chartered Engineer or an Incorporated Engineer, you must join a professional engineering institution licensed by the Engineering Council. You will have to demonstrate commitment and competence to the course to register.

Routes to Chartered Engineering status include completing:

- an accredited honours degree in engineering or technology, plus either an appropriate Masters degree or engineering Doctorate accredited by a professional engineering institution, or appropriate further learning to Masters level
- or, an accredited integrated MEng degree

Routes to Incorporated Engineering status include completing:

- an accredited Bachelors or honours degree in engineering or technology
- or, a HNC, HND or foundation degree in engineering or technology, plus appropriate further learning to degree level
- or, a NVQ level 4, which has been approved by a licensed engineering institution

Work Experience

Previous experience within an engineering position (such as an electrical and mechanical) would be useful for this career.

Experience using computer aided design would also be really helpful to get into this career.

If you would like more information about being a Lift Engineer, then the Lift & Escalator Industry Association or Tomorrow's Engineers have lots of information on education, training and case studies to look at. This could give you more experience on what happens in engineering jobs and see if it is the right career for you.

Progression

Depending on their qualification, Lift Engineers can progress by taking on more responsibility for the management of engineering projects and teams of engineers.

Some engineers choose to become self-employed or take contract work on a freelance basis.

Qualifications

You need a degree in mechanical, electronic or building service engineering to become a Lift Engineer.

To get onto a degree course, you will have to complete A levels. Having at least two A levels in relevant subjects such as maths, mechanics or physics would be helpful for this career.

There are also alternative routes to becoming a Lift Engineer. You could take a BTEC, level 3 qualification, HNC or a HND course in mechanical, electrical or electronic engineering.

To get onto an intermediate apprenticeship, you will need at least 5 GCSE's graded A*-C or 9-4 in subjects including maths, English and science would be really useful.

Further Information

Contacts

- **Semta**
Skills for science, engineering and manufacturing technologies
Address: 14 Upton Road, Watford, Hertfordshire WD18 0JT
Tel: 0845 6439001
Email: customerservices@semta.org.uk
Website: www.semta.org.uk
- **Tomorrow's Engineers**
Publisher: EngineeringUK and Royal Academy of Engineering
Email: contactus@tomorrowseengineers.org.uk

Website: www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk

- **Construction Industry Training Board (CITB)**
Address: Blue Court, Church Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire WD4 8JP
Tel: 01923 260000
Email: ecitb@ecitb.org.uk
Website: careers.ecitb.org.uk
- **Scottish Engineering**
Scottish enquiries
Address: 105 West George Street, Glasgow G2 1QL
Tel: 0141 2213181
Email: consult@scottishengineering.org.uk
Website: www.scottishengineering.org.uk
- **Engineering Council**
Address: 246 High Holborn, London WC1V 7EX
Tel: 020 3206 0500
Website: www.engc.org.uk
- **Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)**
Address: Michael Faraday House, Six Hills Way, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG1 2AY
Tel: 01438 313311
Email: postmaster@theiet.org
Website: www.theiet.org
- **Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)**
Address: 1 Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London SW1H 9JJ
Tel: 020 7222 7899
Email: enquiries@imeche.org
Website: www.imeche.org
- **Careers Wales - Welsh Apprenticeships**
Tel: 0800 028 4844
Website: ams.careerswales.com/
- **The Lift & Escalator Industry Association**
Email: enquiries@leia.co.uk
Website: www.leia.co.uk

Related Careers

- Domestic Appliance Service Engineer
- Maintenance Engineer
- Machine Operator
- Engineering Craft Machinist
- Office Machine Service Engineer
- Vehicle Body Refinisher
- Vehicle Body Repairer
- Welder
- Locksmith
- Toolmaker
- Watch and Clock Repairer
- Mechanic
- Escalator Engineer
- PAT Tester