

## Further Learning Options – Candidate with BEng (Hons)

	Academic Route		Employer Managed Further Learning Programme		Self Managed Further Learning Programme		Technical Report Route	
Offers a qualification	✓		X		X		X	
Entry Standards	Accredited BEng (Hons) - 2:1 normally required.		Accredited BEng (Hons), but entry from other routes may be possible after academic assessment.		Accredited BEng (Hons) but entry from other routes may be possible after academic assessment		No formal entry qualifications required Candidate does require significant technical experience at a high level.	
	Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons
Cost	Career Development Loans are available for MScs,	Expensive for candidate if not employer funded; expensive for company - trainee may have to make a business case for funding.	This can be completed on the job and may not involve travel to a college or University reducing time-costs.	Requires organisation to devote resources (time, money and people) to run the programme.	Can be used by SMEs that do not have the resources to provide in-house training to support an employer managed further learning programme.  This can be completed on the job and may not involve travel to a college or University. So is cheaper for candidate and company.	Time costs for candidate.	This can be completed on the job and does not require time away from work.	Time costs for candidate.
Time	MScs can be studied full time, part time or by distance learning.  Flexibility - Graduates can work in industry for a number of years to gain experience and they can always return to University to study for an MSc when they feel the time is appropriate.  Programme can be run in parallel with organisation's structured IPD scheme and it is possible for candidates to complete programme at the same time as they register the completion of their training agreement.	Part time and distance learning can take from two to eight years which may be a disincentive.  Time away from work impacts on productivity and delivery.	Programme can be run in parallel with organisation's structured IPD scheme and it is possible for candidates to complete programme at the same time as they register the completion of their training agreement.	Will require private study.	Programme can be run in parallel with organisation's structured IPD scheme and it is possible for candidates to complete programme at the same time as they register the completion of their training agreement.	A self-managed programme is less structured than an employer managed programme and may take longer to complete.  Will require private study.	This can be completed on the job and does not involve travel to a college or University.	Can take longer than other routes – indicative period of 7+ years to apply to do TRR at CEng Level.
Professional Registration	Accredited MSc meets CEng education base.		Sign off of an approved programme meets CEng education base.		Sign off of an approved programme meets CEng education base.		A direct route to ICE membership and CEng registration.	

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Support	Structured support from the university.		In house support from designated Supervising Engineer.  The fact that an organisation offers such a scheme can be a marketing advantage when they are looking to recruit the best BEng (Hons) graduates.	Some Supervising Engineers are senior staff and are time constrained.	Candidate has support from the Individual Case Committee who will act as their Assessor and undertake staged checks.	Candidate does not have the support of a Supervising Engineer and formal support network  It requires candidates to be confident in identifying learning opportunities and mapping these to learning outcomes.	Support from a Mentor.	Some Mentors do not fully understand the process and advise the candidate as though they were making an application for the standard CPR and not the TRR.
Commitment	Study timetabled into working week.	Attendance may conflict with work.	Employer will have a commitment to support the scheme.	Commitment required to demonstrate achievement and maintain evidence portfolio.		Commitment required from candidate to develop learning plans and maintain a portfolio of evidence.  There may not be a commitment from the employer.		Candidate must sustain commitment and may have difficulty getting evidence of past work.
Assessment Process	Straightforward and subject to external examiners. The pass criteria are clearly defined making it easy to understand.		Supervising Engineers and Assessors receive training.  Programme can be organised to include some taught modules from an accredited MSc programme and University staff can be used to assess the final outcome.	Some SCEs who are used to signing off development objectives and do not provide a clear statement that demonstrates that new Masters level learning has been achieved.  As this option is quite new it may take time for the Learning Plan to be approved as the candidate/SE has not fully understood the process.	This is planned learning.	It may take time for the Learning Plan to be approved as the candidate has not fully understood the process.	A defined and tested process throughout.  Two stage process Academic Review and Technical Report Review undertaken on the same day.  TRR could be a planned route for a BEng candidate who cannot study for a Masters.	Requirements of technical assessment must be understood.  At the time of application the candidate may no longer be employed in a technical role.  Evidence of learning may have to be drawn retrospectively from previous experience rather than being planned.
Flexibility	Candidates may decide to complete a specialist MSc as they have developed a particular interest in this subject area whilst studying for their bachelor degree and it allows them to cover this area in more depth than staying on to do the MEng degree.		Some organisations use this as a reward when trainees complete the MPR and gain IEng registration, this scheme allows them to use the progressive route to become Chartered a year later.	A CEng training agreement cannot be signed-off until the educational base has been completed and an Employer Managed Programme may take longer to complete.	Allows flexibility if the trainee changes jobs or works for a small organisation.	A CEng training agreement cannot be signed-off until the educational base has been completed and a Self-Managed Programme may take longer to complete.	Allows flexibility if the trainee changes jobs or works for a small organisation.	