

My Career in Architectural Drafting



With a *Certificate in Architectural Drafting 1 & 2*, graduates have the possible *career options* of the following:

- Drafter, Draughtsman

Drafter/Draughtsman

The job descriptions and job specifications for these career options are as follows:

Career Overview

Drafters/Draughtsman use software to convert the designs of architects and engineers into technical drawings and plans. Workers specialize in architectural, civil, electrical, or mechanical drafting and use technical drawings to help design everything from microchips to skyscrapers.

Typical Duties:

- Design plans using computer-aided design and drafting (CADD) software
- Work from rough sketches and specifications created by engineers and architects.
- Help design products with engineering and manufacturing techniques.
- Add details to architectural plans from their knowledge of building techniques.
- Prepare multiple versions of designs for review by engineers and architects.
- Specify dimensions, materials, and procedures for new products.

Typical Duties Cont'd:

- Work under the supervision of engineers or architects.
- Assess information and prepare building plans, drawings and specifications for use by contractors and builders.
- Liaise with engineers, architects and contractors regarding technical construction problems and visit sites and attend site meetings on behalf of architects.
- Survey land and property uses and prepare reports for planning authorities.
- Issue permits as authorized.
- Check that completed work conforms to specifications.

Other associated job titles for this type of work may include chainman, clerk of works or planning assistant.

Work Environment

The industries that employ the most drafters/draughtsman are typically architectural, engineering, and related services, manufacturing and construction. Although *drafters/draughtsman* usually works with computers in an office, some projects require visits to a job site in order to collaborate with architects and engineers. Most drafters work full time and use CADD to create and store technical drawings electronically. These schematics can be viewed, printed, or programmed directly into building information modeling (BIM) systems and product data management (PDM) systems.

The following are examples of the various types of drafters/draughtsman:

1. *Aeronautical drafters/draughtsman*
2. *Architectural drafters/draughtsman*
3. *Civil drafters/draughtsman*
4. *Electrical drafters/draughtsman*
5. *Electronics drafters/draughtsman*
6. *Mechanical drafters/draughtsman*
7. *Process piping or pipeline drafters/draughtsman*

Qualifications and Licenses

Employers generally prefer applicants who have completed postsecondary education in drafting, typically a 2-year associate's degree from a technical institute or community college. Such training may be acquired through SJPP or CVQ level 3 certification.

Essential Qualities and Skills

- ❖ *Detail oriented with critical-thinking skills*
- ❖ *Good interpersonal and time-management skills*
- ❖ *Good mathematical skills*

References

Barbados Standard Occupational Classification, Minor Group 311 section 3115, page 873 – Government of Barbados, Ministry of Employment, Labour Relations and Community Development (1990)
<http://www.truity.com/career-profile/drafter> Retrieved, December 23, 2015,