Hands-on Learning
CU architectural engineering students learn their trade through hands-on work starting in their very first year. Hands-on design projects courses, extra-curricular opportunities, and exciting co-op and internship experiences prepare our students with the technical, professional, and team skills that make them competitive for jobs after graduation.

Did You Know?
100% of CU-Boulder architectural engineering graduates are employed or in graduate school six months after graduation, with an average starting salary of $51,000.

Degrees Offered
- BS
- MS New!
- BS/MS
- PhD New!

Rankings (USNWR)
College
- 19th among public undergraduate engineering programs nationwide
- 20th among public graduate engineering programs nationwide

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“What can I do with a degree in architectural engineering?”
- Construction Engineer
- Structural Engineer
- Building Mechanical Systems Engineer
- Building Electrical & Lighting Systems Engineer
**Department Highlights**
- Approximately 50 scholarships are available annually to CU architectural engineering students.
- Many students find internships and jobs through our network of 4500+ department alumni.

**Industry Facts**
- Americans spend an average of 90% of their time indoors.
- 40% of U.S. energy goes into buildings.
- Architectural engineering focuses on building science to increase comfort and energy efficiency.
- CU is home to state-of-the-art heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) and illumination laboratories.

**Architectural engineering**

**Choose an Area of Concentration**

Architectural engineering focuses on the design and construction of safe and sustainable buildings. Our architectural engineering students achieve both breadth and depth by taking courses in all four areas listed below and choosing one area of specialization with more in-depth courses.

**Construction Engineering and Management**
Using technical and management skills, construction engineers turn designs into reality — on time and within budget — using knowledge of construction methods and equipment, budgeting and financing, planning, and project management. This discipline involves organizing a wide variety of skilled workers and specialists and leading them in the implementation of civil designs.

**Electrical and Lighting Systems**
These architectural engineers are responsible for designing electrical systems to distribute power within buildings. As a specialty in electrical systems, the lighting program provides a broad education in lighting, carefully balancing the aesthetic and technical aspects of the field. The CU lighting program has been known as a top program in the nation for more than 40 years.

**Mechanical Systems**
Those choosing to emphasize mechanical systems will work to effectively distribute water and air throughout a building, with a focus on the comfort and convenience of the building occupants. Of particular interest for these systems is the effective use of energy resources, including renewable energy. The CU program emphasizes principles of sustainable design in addressing these systems.

**Structural Systems**
The architectural engineer who specializes in structural systems determines the stresses that various loads cause within structural elements such as beams, columns, joists, and cables. The CU program provides knowledge of the physical properties of various building materials including steel, concrete, and wood, so these engineers can determine the necessary size and shape of the structural elements.

For more information visit ceae.colorado.edu