

Education for a Career in Surveying

A survey technician usually works in the field or office under the supervision of a Licensed Surveyor, but might also work for Professional Engineer or for a construction firm. A survey technician typically needs to complete a two-year vocational program. The demand for survey technicians varies with economic conditions and construction activity.

To become a Licensed Surveyor in Minnesota, you need to complete a four-year college degree with at least 22 semester credits in surveying, work under supervision for another three to five years (depending on the type of college degree you have), and pass two examinations — the Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) and the Professional Surveying exam (PS). The FS exam consists of two Federal parts, whereas the PS exam is one part Federal and the other State.

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Minnesota State law requires that a Licensed Surveyor must supervise all surveys of property lines. There are slightly more than 600 Licensed Surveyors in Minnesota at present, compared to about 1,500 in Wisconsin. About 60% of the Licensed Surveyors in Minnesota are 50 years old or older. As this older generation of surveyors retires, there is likely to be an increased demand for Licensed Surveyors in Minnesota.

MLS Foundation Scholarships:

The Minnesota Land Surveyors (MLS) Foundation gives scholarships annually to students pursuing careers in surveying. For further information and application forms, check the Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors (MSPS) website: www.mnsurveyor.com

Surveying Degree Program in Minnesota: St. Cloud State University

BS in Land Surveying/Mapping Science
Department of Geography, 352 Stewart Hall
720 South 4th Avenue, St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498
Eric Fuller, (320) 308-3202, fax (320) 308-1660
eifuller@stcloudstate.edu

Andel, Jill: Transfer Coordinator, St. Cloud State Univ.,
(320) 308-4896

Note: Students seeking a four-year surveying degree, with no prior college credit, must attend a community or technical college (see below), generally for two years to obtain an Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS) or Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree, and then complete the remainder of the four-year Bachelor of Science degree at St. Cloud State University.

First Two Years of School:

The following community or technical colleges are accredited by the North Central Association and have a Surveying Program that currently is articulated with St. Cloud State University.

MINNESOTA

St. Cloud Technical & Community College

- Land Surveying/Civil Engineering Technology

1540 Northway Drive, St. Cloud, MN 56303-1240
(320) 308-5012, fax (320) 308-5905

Dahl, John, L.S., P.E.: Civil Engineering Instructor,
jdahl@sctcc.edu

Jody Mies, Instructor, jmies@sctcc.edu

Lake Superior College - Civil Engineering Technology

2101 Trinity Road, Duluth, MN 55811, (218) 733-7627

Cliff Koski: Civil Engineering Instructor
c.koski@lsc.mnscu.edu

Education for a Career in Surveying

Dunwoody College of Technology - Land Design and Civil Engineering Technology; Land Surveying Technician Certificate

Civil Engineering Technician/BES

818 Dunwoody Blvd
Minneapolis, MN 55403

www.dunwoody.edu

Kelly Ness: Continuing Education, (612) 374-5800
x2231

Note: Under the current articulation agreement, St. Cloud State will accept 27 quarter credits of surveying classwork taken at Dunwoody (equal to 21 semester credits at St. Cloud). Dunwoody students will need to take additional Arts and Sciences coursework at St. Cloud State. Contact Mr. Ness or St. Cloud State for further information.

Minnesota State Community and Technical College
- Civil Engineering Technology

900 Hwy. 34E
Detroit Lakes MN 56501
Bruce Wilken
(218) 846-3700

Vermilion Community College
- AS in Land Surveying/BES

1900 East Camp St.
Ely, MN 55731
(218) 235-2180; 800-657-3608
Lori Schmidt, Instructor, l.schmidt@vcc.edu
www.vcc.edu

South Central College - AAS in Civil Engineering Technology

North Mankato Campus
1920 Lee Boulevard,
North Mankato, MN 56003
(507) 389-7200; 800-722-9359
Jay Stencel, P.E., Instructor; Dan Flatgard, Instructor

OTHER STATES/PROVINCES

Gateway Technical College

www.gtc.edu

AAS Degree in Civil Engineering Technology

2320 Renaissance Blvd., Sturtevant, WI 53177
Steven Whitmeyer, Instructor, whitmeyers@gtc.edu
800-247-7122

Mid-State Technical College

www.mstc.edu

AAS Degree in Civil Engineering Technology

500 32nd St. N., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Greg Webster, Instructor, gwebster@mstc.edu
(715) 422-5300, Fax (715) 422-5345

Nicolet Area Technical College

www.nicoletcollege.edu

Associate Degree - Land Surveying Technician

PO Box 518, 5364 College Dr., Rhinelander WI 54501
Tom Raykovich, Instructor
(715) 365-4410, 800-544-3039 or traykovi@nicoletcollege.edu

Northeast Wisconsin Technical Institute

www.nwtc.edu

Associate Degree in Civil Engineering Technology

P.O. Box 19042,
Green Bay, WI 54307-9042
Rick Van Golthem, Instructor,
(920) 498-5674

Southeast Technical Institute

www.southeasttech.edu

AAS Degree in Civil Engineering Technology

2301 Career Place
Sioux Falls, SD 57107
Rod Breitling, Instructor, (605) 367-7624

Education for a Career in Surveying

North Dakota State College of Science

www.ndscs.nodak.edu

Civil Engineering and Land Surveying

800 6th Street North

Wahpeton, ND 58076-0002

(701) 671-2268, Fax (701) 671-2529

Jeff Jelinek, Civil Engineering & Surveying Instructor,

Jeff_Jelinek@ndscs.nodak.edu

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

www.nait.ca

Diploma in Geomatics Engineering Technology

11762 106 St.

Edmonton, AB, Canada T5G 2R1

Connie O'Leary, Instructor,

GET@nait.ca

Note: Minnesota residency is a requirement for MSPS scholarship applicants. However, students from neighboring states who attend the Minnesota Technical Colleges and Universities listed here are considered to be residents of Minnesota during their school years, and will be considered for scholarship. For example, a non-resident student who has graduated from a technical college program in another state and has enrolled in the SCSU Land Surveying and Mapping Sciences Degree may apply for a scholarship.

DEGREE PROGRAMS IN OTHER STATES:

Following are some of the regional universities that offer full four-year degree programs in Land Surveying (and/or related fields), or accept "Two Plus Two" articulation agreements:

Ferris State University

www.ferris.edu

BS in Surveying Engineering, College of Technology

915 Campus Drive, Swan 314

Big Rapids, MI 49307-2280

(231) 591-2633, Fax (231) 591-2082

Michigan Technological University

www.tech.mtu.edu

BS in Surveying Engineering, College of Technology

EERC Rm 426, 1400 Townsend Dr.

Houghton, MI 49931

James C. Loman, (906) 487-2259

Purdue University

www.ecn.purdue.edu

BS and MS in Land Surveying and Geomatics Engineering, School of Civil Engineering

West Lafayette, IN 47907

Steve Johnson, (765) 494-2247; steven@purdue.edu

Other major universities offering degrees in Civil Engineering, such as the University of Minnesota - Main campus, South Dakota State University, and the University of Wisconsin, Madison Campus, also offer courses in Land Surveying as part of their engineering curriculum. The Education Committee of MSPS evaluates scholarship applications, and recommends to the MLS Foundation those full-time students who meet the stated eligibility requirements and are most likely to continue to make Land Surveying their chosen profession.

Note: The foregoing information is believed to be accurate, but all programs are subject to change. For more current information, please visit: https://www.nspss.us.com/page/coll_univ.