

Just the Job

Information Sheet

Job title

Surveying Technician

Job description

- * measure and plot out land boundaries and land development modifications using survey equipment
- * make observations, record angular measurements and collect data about the site
- * process data gathered from the field work
- * make calculations from the data collected and previous surveys
- * prepare reports using the measurements and data calculations
- * draft and interpret plans for land use
- * use survey and basic computer aided design (CAD) software
- * supervise the work of survey assistants.
- * undertake as-built surveys

Qualifications required

Sixth Form Certificate or NCEA equivalent in English and maths, and preferably one science subject.

Bursary or NCEA equivalent in computer science, technical drawing, geography, physics or economics are also useful.

To become a surveying technician you need to have a National Diploma in Surveying, which can be gained through full time or part time study. In exceptional circumstances employers may take someone on in this role without this qualification if they have a lot of relevant surveying work experience.

Training costs

Training is usually done at Unitec in Auckland, with two years full time study. The course costs are approximately \$4000 per year. Other providers may become available in 2008.

Location of job

Work is both indoors and outdoors. There are job opportunities throughout New Zealand.

Career path

Many people start out working as a survey assistant and study to become a survey technician. A survey technician who has a National Diploma in Surveying and work experience can then go on to study at Otago University to become a registered land surveyor (parts of the diploma, subject to grade conditions, can be cross-credited to the degree).

Salary range

Salaries vary, but qualified survey technicians usually earn between \$35,000 and \$55,000 per year. Unqualified survey technicians can earn between \$25,000 and \$40,000 depending on where they work and whether they are studying for the National Diploma in Surveying.

Other careers this profession could lead to

1. Professional Land Surveyor
2. Project Manager
3. Asset Manager
4. Quantity Surveyor

How to increase the chances of successfully entering this industry

Take English and Trigonometry at school.

Talk to a local surveying company to see if you can spend some time gaining work experience.

Gain a drivers licence as early as possible.

Have a keen, 'can do' attitude.

Other places to source information about this job

www.infratrains.co.nz

www.surveyors.org.nz

www.kiwicareers.govt.nz

www.nzcontractors.co.nz

www.fhcareers.co.nz