

## **CAREER OF THE WEEK: Field Service Engineer**

### **What does a field service engineer do?**

A field service engineer is a specialist who installs, maintains, and repairs technical equipment at customer sites rather than in a workshop. This could mean working with anything from medical scanners and manufacturing machinery to IT systems, lifts, or energy equipment.

No two days are the same. One day you might be setting up a new machine in a hospital, the next troubleshooting a breakdown in a factory. Field service engineers often travel between locations, diagnose problems, replace parts, and ensure equipment runs smoothly. You'll also keep detailed service records and explain technical issues in simple terms to customers.

The role suits someone who enjoys problem-solving, working independently, and doesn't mind being on the move. You'll need strong technical knowledge, good communication skills, and the ability to stay calm under pressure when equipment fails unexpectedly.

### **What can I expect to earn as a field service engineer?**

Salaries vary depending on your industry, experience, and location. A newly qualified field service engineer might earn around £24,000–£28,000 a year, while those with a few years of experience often move up to £30,000–£40,000. Senior engineers with specialist expertise can earn £45,000 or more. Many employers also offer overtime, call-out payments, a company vehicle, and travel expenses, which can increase overall earnings.

### **What subjects should I study to become a field service engineer?**

At school, focus on subjects that build your technical and problem-solving skills. These include maths, physics, design & technology, engineering, and IT/Computing.

### **How can I start my career as a field service engineer?**

There are several routes into this career:

**Apprenticeships:** Many companies offer engineering or technician apprenticeships. These combine work with study and give you hands-on experience.

**Further education:** Studying for a BTEC, T Level, or HNC/HND in Engineering, Electrical/Electronic Engineering, or Mechanical Engineering can prepare you for entry-level roles.

**University:** Some field service engineers hold a degree in engineering or a related subject, though this isn't always required.

Employers often provide specialist training once you start, as the equipment varies by industry. To stand out, try to gain work experience in technical settings.

If you're practical, enjoy fixing things, and like the idea of travelling to different sites, becoming a field service engineer could be the perfect path for you.

To research local education and training opportunities that could lead to a career as a field service engineer, visit our partner website [www.logonmoveon.co.uk](http://www.logonmoveon.co.uk)

Details of relevant degree courses can be found on the [UCAS](http://www.ucas.ac.uk) website.

### **Other useful websites to find out more about a career as a field service engineer:**

CV Library <https://www.cv-library.co.uk/career-advice/job-profile/field-service-engineer/become-field-service-engineer/>

National Careers Service – Field Service Engineer <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/domestic-appliance-service-engineer>

