

Mining Engineer

Plan and run the mines that dig up Canada's metals and minerals. High pay, remote sites, and an industry that rises and falls with metal prices.

TYPICAL PAY

\$125,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$77k to \$240k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

4 to 8 years

after high school

DEMAND

Good

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

Yes

regulated job

WHERE YOU WORK

Mine sites, head offices, consulting firms, remote camps

How you get there

- 1 High school** Grades 11 and 12
 Advanced Functions, Calculus, Physics and Chemistry are required for admission. Marks in the 80s at most schools.
- 2 Accredited mining engineering degree** 4 to 5 years with co-op
 A Bachelor of Engineering or Applied Science in mining engineering. Laurentian in Sudbury, Queen's, UBC (University of British Columbia), McGill, Polytechnique Montréal, Laval, Alberta and Dalhousie all have programs. Many students do a general first year and pick mining in se...
- 3 Engineer-in-training** About 4 years
 Register with your provincial regulator as an engineer-in-training (EIT). Work under a licensed engineer, usually at a mine site or a consulting firm. Log your experience.
- 4 Professional practice exam** During your EIT years
 A law and ethics exam. Most people write it in their first or second year of work.
- 5 P.Eng (professional engineer) licence** After 4 years
 Apply with your experience record and references. Now you can sign mine plans and take legal responsibility for them.

Pros and cons

- + Some of the highest starting pay in engineering
- + Half the year off on a rotation schedule
- + Canada is a world centre for mining, so the skills travel
- Remote sites, far from family and friends
- Cyclical: layoffs when metal prices fall
- Underground work has real safety risks

Good to know

Toronto is where the world's mines raise money

The Toronto Stock Exchange and its venture exchange list more mining companies than any other exchange in the world. That is why so many mining engineers end up in a downtown Toronto office.

Sudbury sits in a crater

The nickel around Sudbury, Ontario formed when a meteorite hit about 1.85 billion years ago. Mines there have run since the 1880s, and Laurentian University's mining school sits in the middle of the mining...

Optional boosts

Qualified Person status. Rock mechanics or ventilation specialty. Mine rescue and blasting certificates. MBA (master of business administration) or mineral economics.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Mining engineers, wages (updated Nov 2025)
 Engineers Canada
 Professional Engineers Ontario
 Engineers and Geoscientists BC

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/mining-engineer>



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