ENGINEERS EUROPE

ENGINEERS EUROPE Policy on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) June 2026

Certification Committee recommendation for a revised policy,
approved by the ENGINEERS EUROPE Executive Board on 18.09.2026
approved by the ENGINEERS EUROPE General Assembly on 16.10.2026

ENGINEERS EUROPE affirms that there is an on-going need for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) of engineers in Europe.

CPD is the acquisition of knowledge, experience and skills and the development of personal qualities. It embraces both the acquisition of new capabilities to broaden competence and the enhancement of existing capabilities to keep abreast of evolving technology and its application.

CPD is essential for the maintenance of high professional standards and enhances the employability and mobility of individual engineers. It assists career progression and strengthens professional satisfaction.

CPD benefits society and is of crucial importance in sustaining the competitiveness of European industry in the global market.

CPD is the individual's responsibility but requires the cooperation, encouragement and support of employers and professional and academic institutions.

CPD, to be most effective, has to be planned and related to specific objectives. Reflection on what has been learnt is essential to enable an individual's plan to be periodically updated.

CPD can take a variety of forms, including mentoring and the sharing of knowledge and expertise. In this context, ENGINEERS EUROPE provides the following guidelines for National Member Organisations and individual engineers.

ENGINEERS EUROPE CPD GUIDELINES FOR THE NATIONAL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

ENGINEERS EUROPE encourages all National Member Organisations and their affiliated organisations to:

- Include the promotion of CPD as an important element of the organisation's mission.
- Establish a CPD policy and communicate it to relevant national institutions and authorities, highlighting the key role of qualified professional engineers for the development of the economy and society.
- Encourage companies, universities, professional organisations and others to invest in CPD for engineers.
- Encourage defined quality in CPD as well as innovative practises in learning.
- Support individual engineers in their personal CPD e.g. by establishing a national CPD committee to promote CPD.
- Communicate Best-Practise in CPD among the National Member Organisations.
- Follow the initiatives on competence recognition, mobility, employability and accreditation of education and CPD e.g. European and National Qualification Framework.
- Make the organisation's CPD policy, along with the ENGINEERS EUROPE Guidelines on CPD for Engineers in Europe, available to their members.

ENGINEERS GUIDELINES ON CPD FOR EUROPEAN ENGINEERS

To maintain and develop their professional competence, individual engineers are encouraged to:

- Recognise the importance of CPD for their career, employability and mobility, as well as, their professional satisfaction and well-being at all ages and stages throughout their career.
- Take active ownership of their professional and personal development and invest in CPD. At personal level, establish a Competence Development Plan and a broad idea of a Career Goal.
- With the employer, negotiate a CPD plan which is realistic and in a systematic way builds competences ensuring good execution of tasks and enabling career development.
- Actively work towards realising the CPD plan. Systematically record their CPD activities and achievements so that maintaining and/or developing professional competence can be demonstrated, and if needed, the competence acquired may be assessed and acknowledged.
- Strive for quality in their personal CPD, as well as, the use of a variety of methods e.g. formal courses/programs, academic studies, professional visits, on-the job-learning.
- Keep informed of and respond to the CPD mission, policy of their professional institution and/or National Member Organisation. Use the CPD related services offered by the National Member Organisation.