JOB DESCRIPTION

Drafters create detailed schematics that are utilized in the manufacturing of products and the construction of buildings. These detailed technical drawings incorporate the input of engineers, architects, and surveyors and can specify dimensions, codes, materials, and production methods.

Drafters work within different specialties. Architectural drafters prepare structural designs for new construction, civil drafters prepare technical drawings for civil engineering projects, and mechanical drafters create designs for machinery and mechanical devices.

WHAT SKILLS & TRAINING ARE NEEDED?

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS:

• Active Listening: In order to develop drawings catered toward the needs of their clients, drafters must give their full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, and asking questions as appropriate.
• Mathematics: Drafters often use mathematics to solve problems.
• Critical Thinking: Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems will set one drafter apart from another.
• Active Learning: Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making situations.

TRAINING: Many employers require CAD drafters to have completed at least an associate’s degree program. Professional certification can increase advancement opportunities.

HOW DO I KNOW IF THIS IS A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

• You enjoy reading blueprints.
• You pay close attention to detail.
• You enjoy working with computers.
• You can explain plans and drawings to others.