

Solar Project Manager

Role Specific Education Training Needs

A career as a Construction Project manager specialising in solar is exciting, rewarding and open. As a minimum you will have an aptitude for organisation and will enjoy responsibility since the success of the project largely depends on you. Career entrants may have a degree specifically tailored to Construction Management, such as this one from the University of East London: <https://www.uel.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/bsc-hons-construction-management>, or this one from the University of West London: <https://www.uwl.ac.uk/course/undergraduate/bsc-construction-project-management?start=326&option=33>.

Others will come to Project Management through other degrees like Engineering, Building Engineering, Architectural Engineering, Project Management, and other related disciplines. However, if you already have a degree in an unrelated subject you may be able to directly access a master's degree in construction project management. A Solar Project Manager needs a broad range of skills so candidates with degrees in other disciplines will be considered, or other relevant experience.

Alternative entry routes

Higher Technical Qualifications

Solar Construction Project Management is a profession that is in demand in London and the UK, and there are many routes into the field. You don't always need to start with a degree. From the age of 18 you could choose a Higher Technical Qualification in a Construction Management discipline like an HNC or an HND, you could choose a foundation degree or a higher education diploma. There are a huge choice of options available to you. Check out your local college or institute.

T Levels

If you're 16 and deciding between the traditional A level route or alternative routes and you want a blend of academic and practical learning, you

might be interested in the new Technical Qualifications (T Level) choices. T levels are a new 2-year long qualification They bring classroom learning and an extended industry placement together. You'll spend 80% of your time in the classroom and 20% on a 45-day placement with an employer which will give you a great experience of the world of work in your chosen field. One T level takes 2 years of full-time study and is equivalent to 3 A levels. T Levels are rolling out across the country with many more coming online by September 2024.

The Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction T – Level is currently offered in London by Newham College: <https://www.newvic.ac.uk/>.

The Building Services Engineering for Construction is offered in London by Barking and Dagenham College:
<https://www.barkingdagenhamcollege.ac.uk/>.

Other colleges across London will begin to offer these courses from September 2022.

You can search for a relevant T Level delivered in your location here:
<https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/find?Postcode=&ShouldSearch=True&SearchedQualificationId=48&TotalRecordCount=22&SelectedQualificationId=0>.

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are a common and popular route to take at age 16, 18 or older. This is because during your apprenticeship you are employed and earn a wage while you study to learn your profession.

Career Prospects and Progression

Good project managers are a great asset to any company. After you have gained experience and a good reputation you may wish to set up your own consultancy, or your own contracting company. You may wish to pursue accreditation as a Chartered construction manager from the Chartered Institute of Building, giving you additional professional recognition:

<https://www.ciob.org/>.

Skills Needed

According to the National Careers service a Construction Manager will need the following skills:

- Knowledge of building and construction.
- Maths knowledge.
- The ability to organise your time and workload.
- Leadership skills.
- The ability to work well with others.
- Business management skills.
- The ability to use your initiative.
- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- To be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently.

Number Employed (UK)

There were 208,000 Production Managers or Directors in construction in 2008. (SOC 1122) and an additional 86,000 Construction Project Managers (SOC 2436).

Typical Salary Range

A typical UK salary for Project Managers in Construction is between £27,000 – £65,000. However as someone specialising in solar projects you may be able to command a premium once you have a certain level of experience. Consultant project managers may be able to earn in excess of £100,000.

ENDS

Please note that the information contained on this page is accurate to the best of Solar Energy UK's knowledge. Solar Energy UK welcomes additional information and will aim to update any errors or omissions.