**Typical Day**
As engineering consultants, we work on many different projects at the same time. I need to ensure that I am completing any required tasks to avoid holding up project schedules. This could include performing calculations, computer modeling, or selecting new equipment manufactured by others. I also correspond with clients and coworkers constantly, which involves meetings and conference calls. It's very important to maintain great relationships with everyone you work.

**What I Love About My Job**
I get to aid clients in completing a goal or vision. I love getting to see my work implemented and making something better than when it started. I also get to visit many locations for projects I'm working on to determine existing site conditions, most of which are not accessible to the public.

**Career Pathway**
I received my Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Aerospace from Montana State University. Shortly after finishing school, I found a position with Coffman Engineers in their Industrial Mechanical Department. I then studied for and obtained my Professional Engineers License.
**Most Important Skills Needed**

*Communication.* An engineering consultant must be able to communicate effectively and clearly both verbally and written. Clients come to you, as the expert, looking for advice and solutions.

*Critical Thinking.* Being able to come up with multiple solutions to a single problem. Understanding how one solution may create conflicts with other items already in place.

*Analytical/math skills.* Manipulating formulas and creating new calculations. These are used to determine correct sizing of anything from motors and bearings to HVAC equipment.

*Mechanical Aptitude.* Being able to visualize how pieces go together. Understanding how to manipulate objects in 3D. Interest in what physically makes water, heat, gears, move.

**Science and Engineering Practices I Use**

Machine Design  
Mechanics of Materials  
Statics/Dynamics

**Technology and Equipment I Use**

2D/3D Modeling Programs  
Engineering Calculation Software  
Survey/measuring equipment

**Education Background Needed**

A four-year degree from an accredited college/university is required to begin the Professional Engineer licensure process. You become an engineer-in-training (E.I.T.) after completing the Fundamentals of Engineering exam. Then, you work towards becoming a professional engineer (P.E.) by obtaining four years of qualifying engineering experience and passing the Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam.

**Salary**

Median Annual Wage, Spokane County: $87,954  
*Source: WA STEM Labor Market and Credential Data Dashboard*