CPD Activities

The IET recognises there are many activities that can count towards your CPD – in fact almost anything that helps you reach your professional development goals can be regarded as a CPD activity.

When asked about CPD, many people instantly think about more structured activities such as training courses – and while these are an excellent form of CPD, there are also many other activities that can count towards your CPD and here we give you some suggestions.

When planning your CPD, remember the acronym TWAVES:

- Training courses
- Work experience
- Academic study
- Volunteering
- Events and seminars
- Self-study

Examples of activities which fall in to these categories are provided below, together with some of the products and services provided by the IET. More information about the IET’s products and services that support CPD can be found in our [CPD Directory](#).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of CPD</th>
<th>Some examples</th>
<th>What does the IET provide?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>• Soft skills courses&lt;br&gt;• Technical courses&lt;br&gt;• E-learning / distance courses&lt;br&gt;• In-company training courses&lt;br&gt;• Courses leading to qualifications, e.g. PRINCE2&lt;br&gt;• Preparing materials for training courses&lt;br&gt;• Delivering training courses</td>
<td>Lifeskills workshops (via UK Local Networks)&lt;br&gt;Online learning (webinars and e-classes)&lt;br&gt;Professional Development training courses (public &amp; in-company)</td>
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<td>Work experience</td>
<td>• Learning by doing the job and developing experience.&lt;br&gt;• Talking to suppliers, customers or specialists and working with them to determine their technical requirements.&lt;br&gt;• Receiving coaching from others.&lt;br&gt;• Secondments and job rotation.&lt;br&gt;• Job shadowing.&lt;br&gt;• Apprenticeships.&lt;br&gt;• Promotion to a new role.&lt;br&gt;• Coaching / training others&lt;br&gt;• Supervising / managing / leading others.&lt;br&gt;• Presentations to external clients, colleagues, etc.&lt;br&gt;• Preparing and presenting reports.&lt;br&gt;• Managing projects, budgets, teams, etc.</td>
<td>Approved apprentice schemes offer upcoming engineers the best opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic study</td>
<td>• Masters degree (e.g. MEng, MSc)&lt;br&gt;• PhD/Doctorate&lt;br&gt;• Bachelors degree (e.g. BEng, BSc)&lt;br&gt;• HND&lt;br&gt;• HNC&lt;br&gt;• City &amp; Guilds&lt;br&gt;• NVQ&lt;br&gt;• ONC&lt;br&gt;• OND</td>
<td>Academic Accreditation: awarded to high quality programmes that provide an ideal preparation for aspiring professional engineers.&lt;br&gt;Approved apprentice schemes offer upcoming engineers the best opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteering</td>
<td>Mentoring</td>
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| • Professional body volunteering roles e.g. mentoring, local network roles, professional registration interviewer, committee roles, etc.  
• Other volunteer roles that support the development of soft skills / financial / leadership skills e.g. scout / guide leader, charity work, local organisations, etc.  
• Speaking at an event.  
• Membership of a technical expert group. | Professional Registration volunteers (various roles)  
Local Network volunteers (various roles)  
Communities volunteers (various roles)  
Boards and Committees volunteers |

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<tr>
<th>Events and seminars</th>
<th>Local Networks</th>
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| • Conferences  
• Networking events  
• Technical visits  
• Exhibitions  
• Seminars  
• Lectures  
• Organising meetings or events  
• Speaking at an event  
• Lecturing or teaching | Sector events, seminars, lectures  
IET.tv (watch live seminars or watch them afterwards) |

| Self-study | Inspec  
Books  
Digital Library  
Magazines  
Journals  
IET.tv  
IET communities – Technical and Professional Networks  
My Community  
Factfiles |
|------------|------------------------------------------------|
| • Reading books, journals and articles.  
• Research through internet searches and digital information sources.  
• Online technical communities & discussion forums.  
• Authoring |