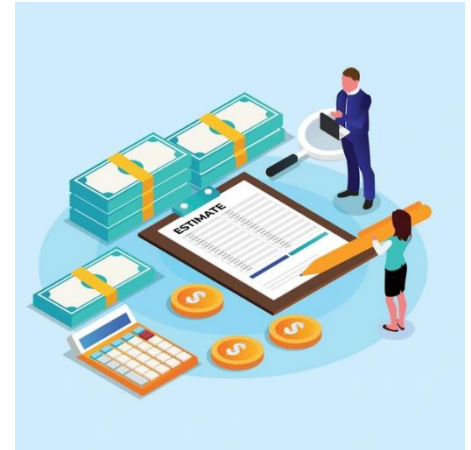


Estimator

If you love working with numbers as much as you enjoy meeting and negotiating with people and suppliers, the role of estimator could be perfect for you.

Estimators draw up assessments of how much it will cost to provide clients, or potential clients, with products or services. It's the estimator's job to consider all pertinent information about each building project and decide how much it would cost to meet the client's needs. They'd then need to bid for the work alongside competitors. Quality is also considered alongside the price, so the winning bid isn't always the cheapest one. Estimators not only need to submit budgetary costs and analysis, but they often submit a quality report too, which they may have helped to write. Estimators are sometimes called construction estimators or cost engineers.



Skills:

You'll need to be:

- highly proficient in numeracy
- good at negotiating
- able to undertake project management
- detail orientated
- able to work under pressure and to deadlines
- commercially aware of the construction industry
- excellent at problem solving
- analytically minded, including having the ability to undertake financial analysis

Qualifications:

Although it's not necessary for you to have any formal educational qualifications to enter this career, GCSEs or equivalent at grades 9-4 (A*-C) in science, IT, technology, English and maths are useful. You could also study for an HNC (Higher National Certificate), HND (Higher National Diploma) or degree in subject areas such as: construction management/quantity surveying/building surveying/structural engineering/civil engineering. Another popular route into this industry is through an apprenticeship with a building or engineering firm. [Go Construct](#) and [Engineering Construction Industry Training Board \(ECITB\)](#) contain a lot of useful information about the different apprenticeships available in construction and how to apply.

Working hours:

Typically, you'll work office hours Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, on average working between 37 to 40 hours per week. But, as bid submission deadlines loom, some late nights can be expected. Site visits are often required but the need to stay away overnight is rare.

Salary:

- Starting salaries for newly trained estimators are around £20,000.
- Experienced estimators can earn between £25,000 and £35,000.
- Senior chartered or master estimators can expect salaries reaching £67,000.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/estimator>

