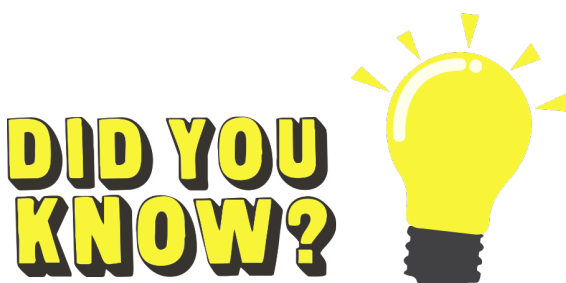


Dear Reader,

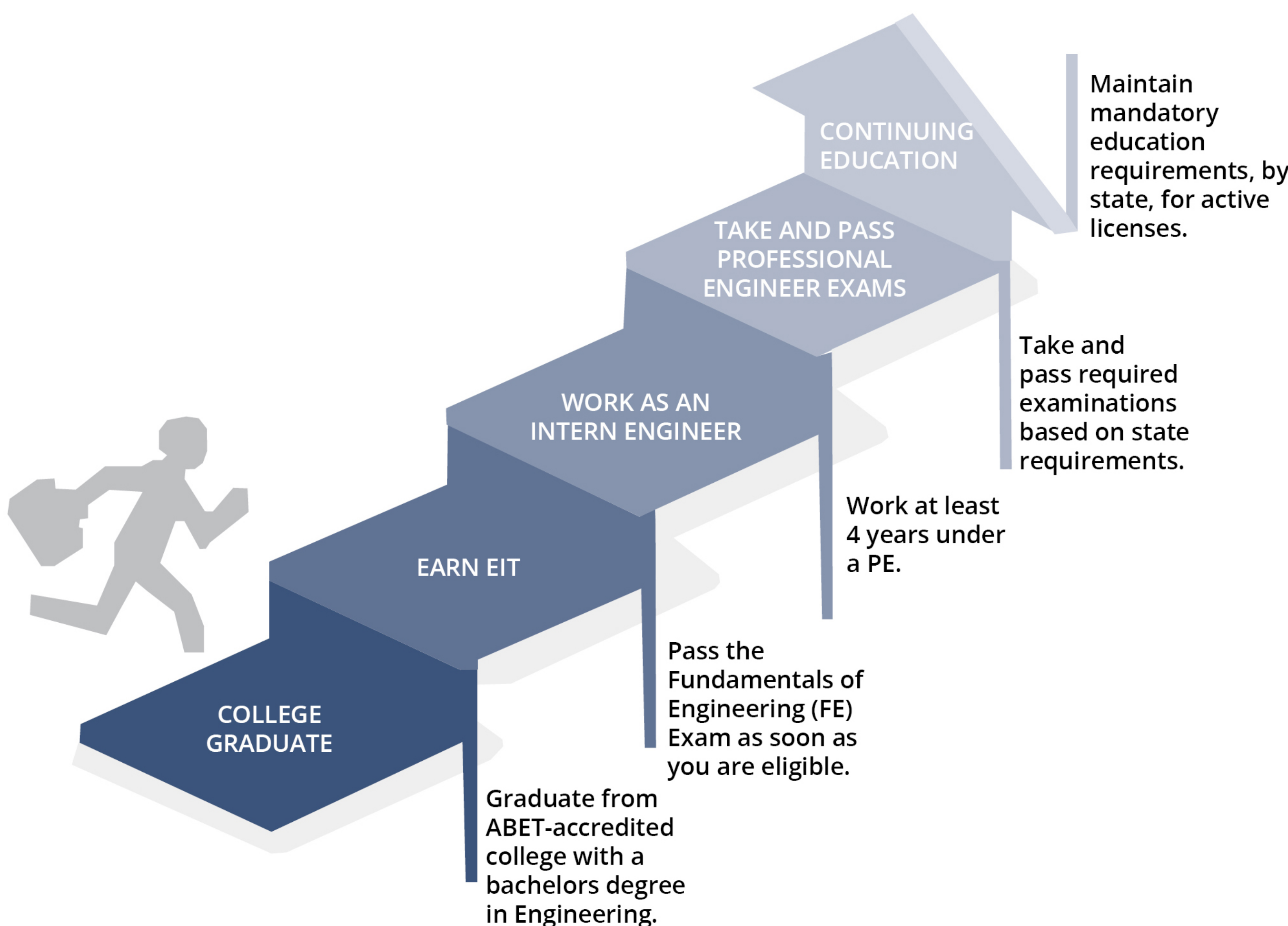
Recently I had a discussion with colleagues of the Carpenter's Company of Philadelphia regarding training of up-and-coming engineers in our industry, and the importance experienced engineers take on as mentor in a successful organization. This year we started a formal mentorship program to help guide younger engineers up the technical ladder to licensure and beyond. In this issue, we highlight the training and qualifications it takes to perform civil and structural engineering services, and provide a brief history on the oldest trade guild in the United States.

Happy Holidays from all of us at Mainstay Engineering!

Best Regards,
Matthew E. Hilbush, P.E.
President & Founder



CAREER PROGRESSION OF AN ENGINEER



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: MEET PAMELA ASSENMACHER, P.E. | ASSOCIATE



WHAT IS YOUR ROLE AT MAINSTAY? My role at Mainstay as an Associate is to assist the principal with company business management decisions. I prepare proposals, review contracts, and manage the Mainstay project design teams. I also provide engineering guidance and expertise to the project design teams through interdisciplinary coordination with Architectural, Civil and MEP disciplines.

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO BECOME AN ENGINEER? I decided to become a structural engineer while attending New York Institute of Technology and pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture. An engineering professor at the college recommended that I consider a career in structural engineering. He invited me to his office to observe and learn what a structural engineering career entailed and stated that based on my mathematical skills and engineering mind-set, structural engineering would be a better career for me than architectural design. After considering what I observed and understanding how structural engineers are the backbone of architecture, I switched majors and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Technology. After graduating from NYIT, I went on to graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Temple University with a concentration in the field of structural engineering.

HOW DID YOU FIRST LEARN ABOUT MAINSTAY? I learned about Mainstay through my personal connections with the firm principals at the time. My husband, also a structural engineer, worked with them at another firm. We have all known each other for a long time as friends and I was looking for a change and challenging new position.

WHAT IS THE FAVORITE PART ABOUT WORKING FOR MAINSTAY? At Mainstay, I enjoy mentoring the younger engineers and sharing my past experiences with them. I am particular on engineering and documentation quality, and have found that Mainstay follows the same philosophy. It has been rewarding to start working at a new firm with only 4 engineers on staff and helping it to grow into an established company of 25 engineers. We are highly recognized by our clients and end-users as a preferred structural engineering firm.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE PROJECT AT MAINSTAY? Every project has its own unique problem-solving structural challenge, which makes a favorite project difficult to identify. I would say that no one particular project was or is a favorite. The field of structural engineering as a whole and how we use our expertise to do our work for our clients and end-users can be considered my favorite project.

WHAT ARE 3 WORDS TO DESCRIBE MAINSTAY? Successful, Experienced, Expanding.

WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES FOR OUR INDUSTRY? There is one hope that I have for the future of structural engineering. I hope that educational institutions re-evaluate what they teach, when they teach (order of subjects and courses) and how they teach structural engineering. Theoretical knowledge is good to have as a background, but practical knowledge is much more useful to a young structural engineer in his or her early career.

TELL US 3 THINGS MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU... In my early structural engineering career, I married a wonderful husband who is also a structural engineer. We raised two beautiful daughters, one who graduated from the United States Naval Academy and the other who is currently a Junior at American University. During my career, I've had the privilege to participate in several professional organizations, to be a member of professional committees, and to attend many professional conferences. I was also elected to two terms as a School Director on my local public school board.

900 MEMBERS...300 YEARS THE CARPENTERS' COMPANY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA



The Carpenters' Company is the oldest active guild in the United States, dating back to its inception in 1724. It originally consisted of carpenters who were the Master Builders (craftsmen) of their day. From the 18th century, these members erected Independence Hall, Christ Church, and the famous Carpenter's Hall. Today, the Company's members consist of Builders, Architects, and Structural Engineers- the Master Builders of today.

Since inception, the Carpenter's Company has served many missions including interpreting the significance of events that took place in and around the Hall, the history of building construction, educating, supporting, and encouraging men and women entering the construction industry.

The Company is innovative: the erection of the first Philadelphia skyscraper with an interior steel frame, the construction of the Comcast Technology Center (tallest building in Pennsylvania), and the construction of the nation's first baseball stadium with reinforced concrete.

Within The Company, a Master Builders' Institute (MBI) has been established as an educational branch of the Company, creating a way to engage the region's design, construction, and learning community. The first initiative of MBI is a speakers' bureau, making The Company's members available to local middle schools, high schools, and colleges.

Mainstay's beliefs align directly with the Carpenter's Company with a focus on outreach and education, serving the community, advancing the built environment, and attracting talented individuals to design and construction. Mainstay has been a proud sponsor since 2012 and our owner a member since 2015.

OVERHEAD ANCHORAGES - FALL CLEARANCES BY: RYAN FIRKSER, PE, SE, CSP | PROJECT MANAGER

This article is focused on fall clearances for overhead anchorages and is intended to provide some clarity for compliance to OSHA regulations and/or ANSI best practice specifications.

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

MAINSTAY FAMILY DAY | DIGGERLAND, USA



COMMUNITY DESIGN COLLABORATIVE 22nd ANNUAL BOWLING BALL

Mainstay has been a proud sponsor of this event since 2012! Our team went ready to win this year, racking up three awards - Highest Team Score, Highest Male Bowler, and the Double Dare Challenge.

The Community Design Collaborative provides pro bono preliminary design services to nonprofit organizations in greater Philadelphia, creates engaging volunteer opportunities for design professionals, and raises awareness about the importance of design in revitalizing communities.

