

## Top-Paid Bachelor's Degrees – Engineering Majors

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers' (NACE) Winter 2010 *Salary Survey*, the average starting salary of bachelor's degree recipients is \$48,351. Petroleum engineers earned the highest starting salary of bachelor's degree recipients at \$86,220, followed by chemical engineering at \$65,142 and mining & mineral engineering at \$64,552.

As seen in the table, below, 10 of the most highly paid degrees are engineering disciplines. Computer science and information sciences and systems were the only non-engineering degrees in the top 10 list.

NACE executive director Marilyn Mackes states, "While a variety of factors play a role in determining salaries, new graduates with degrees in the technical fields tend to benefit from their relatively low supply. There is more competition for their skills, driving up their salary offers."

Top Ten Paid Bachelor's Degrees, Class of 2010	
Bachelor's Degree Major	Average Salary Offer
Petroleum Engineering	\$86,220
Chemical Engineering	\$65,142
Mining & Mineral Engineering (incl. geological)	\$64,552
Computer Science	\$61,205
Computer Engineering	\$60,879
Electrical/Electronics & Communications Engineering	\$59,074
Mechanical Engineering	\$58,392
Industrial/Manufacturing Engineering	\$57,734
Aerospace/Aeronautical/Astronautical Engineering	\$57,231
Information Sciences & Systems	\$54,038

Source: National Association of Colleges and Employers. Winter 2010 *Salary Survey* Data represent offers to bachelor's degree candidates where 10 or more offers were reported.

**On the Web:** [http://www.nacweb.org/Press/Releases/Top-Paid\\_Majors\\_Among\\_College\\_Class\\_of\\_2010.aspx](http://www.nacweb.org/Press/Releases/Top-Paid_Majors_Among_College_Class_of_2010.aspx)

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