

Leadership: Industry needs for entry-level engineering positions.

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Leadership: industry needs for entry-level engineering positions

ARTICLE

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 Abstract & Citation

Abstract

This paper presents the results of a study that sought to identify what companies mean by the word “leadership” when used in job descriptions for entry-level, full-time engineering positions. Seven years of job posting data was analyzed to first understand the frequency and use of the word “leadership” in job descriptions. Using a systematic approach, six participants from engineering companies hiring students from a Midwestern university were selected and interviewed. Emerging themes from the interviews include the following leadership competencies: initiative/confidence, communication, interpersonal interactions, teamwork, and engagement. The goal of this ongoing research is to assist engineering programs to assess, refine, and develop curricula, advising materials and methods to best prepare students for industry.

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