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सहायक अभियंता / ए.ई.एन. (राजस्थान)

The Assistant Engineer is the gazetted officer of Rajasthan's engineering departments who holds the practical running of government construction and maintenance. In the Public Works Department, the Public Health Engineering...



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करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

The Assistant Engineer is the gazetted officer of Rajasthan's engineering departments who holds the practical running of government construction and maintenance. In the Public Works Department, the Public Health Engineering Department, the Water Resources Department and others, the post prepares designs and estimates, runs the tender and contract process, supervises the quality and progress of construction, verifies measurement books and payments, and leads a team of junior engineers. The road that reached your village, the pipeline that brought water to the house, the canal that reached the field — behind each is an Assistant Engineer's technical sanction and supervision. Recruitment is through a single combined competitive examination in which engineers from four branches — civil, electrical, mechanical and agriculture — sit with their own branch as the optional subject.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	A degree in engineering in the relevant branch (Civil, Electrical, Mechanical or Agriculture Engineering) — see that cycle's advertisement for the exact wording
Recruiting body	Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC), Ajmer — through a combined competitive examination
Age limit	21 to 40 years (Service Rules 1991) — the upper limit is relaxed for reserved categories and for women (detail below)
Starting salary	The pay matrix level is not given in the service rules — see the advertisement
Demand	A two-stage examination — an objective preliminary (screening only) and a conventional Main

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- An interest in construction, structures and machines — in how things get built and how they run
- Public infrastructure — roads, drinking water, canals and buildings
- Seeing the work in the field rather than only from an office

ABILITIES

- Mathematical and technical ability, and accuracy in estimation — a mistake here is a mistake with public money
- Holding to a technical judgement even under pressure
- Leading a team and dealing practically with contractors

KEY SKILLS

- Design, drawing and the preparation of estimates
- Testing of materials and quality control
- Project management and keeping to timelines
- An understanding of tender, contract and financial rules
- Verifying measurement books, records and payments
- The relevant software — AutoCAD, STAAD Pro or branch-specific tools

4 How to get there

- 1 Pass Class 12 in the science stream with physics, chemistry and mathematics (PCM).
- 2 Take a four-year B.E. or B.Tech. in Civil, Electrical, Mechanical or Agriculture Engineering. Whichever branch you choose becomes your optional subject in the Main examination later, so this choice is settled at the graduation stage.
- 3 Admission goes through JEE Main or Rajasthan's REAP process. Fees at a government engineering college are far lower than at a private one, so effort after Class 12 converts directly into money here.

- 4 A point for diploma students: a three-year polytechnic diploma leads to Junior Engineer (JEn), not to Assistant Engineer. A degree is required for Assistant Engineer. After a diploma you can take lateral entry into the second year of a B.Tech., and that is the route by which many junior engineers reach this post.
- 5 Your age must be between 21 and 40, and you apply when the RPSC advertisement for the combined competitive examination appears.

MAIN EXAMS

- Recruitment is through a combined competitive examination held in two successive stages, and the two stages are of different kinds — which is the most important feature of this examination. The preliminary is objective: one compulsory and one optional paper, 400 marks in all. It is a screening test only — its marks do not count towards the final merit.
- That compulsory Paper-I is Hindi deserves particular attention, because it is what an engineering student does not expect. It is a 100-mark paper — as many marks as the engineering-related paper beside it. After four years of technical study in English, the practice of writing in Hindi lapses, and it is hard to recover once the advertisement is out. Put it into the preparation plan from the beginning, not at the end.
- The Main examination is conventional, not objective. Each paper is of three hours. It has two compulsory papers — Paper-I Hindi, 100 marks, and Paper-II Social aspects of Engineering, 100 marks — and with them any one optional subject, whose two papers carry 200 marks each. The plain consequence of this structure is that two different kinds of preparation are needed: objective practice for the preliminary, and practice at writing answers out for the Main. Many candidates carry the preliminary's style of preparation into the Main and lose there.
- There are four optional subjects — Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Agriculture Engineering. Agriculture Engineering was added by an order dated 6.03.2013, so it is a later addition. You take the subject your degree is in, so the choice has in effect already been made at graduation.

- A caution that will help when reading older material: the 1991 rules document also quotes an earlier examination scheme — two general papers of 200 marks each and three optional subjects — which has since been substituted. That text appears at length in the document and is misleading for exactly that reason. The scheme given above is the one in force. In every case the final authority is that cycle's advertisement — read it yourself before applying.
- Relaxation in the upper age limit — 5 years for male candidates of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, More Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Sections; 5 years for women candidates of the General category; and 10 years for women candidates of those same categories. Which means plainly that the bare figure printed against a post understates a reserved-category woman's eligibility by a decade — if you are in that category, work out your eligibility only after adding the relaxation. In Rajasthan, 30% of the posts in direct recruitment are reserved category-wise for women candidates. Widows and divorced women have no upper age limit at all — the rules say it in those words. It is Rule 13(9) of the Rajasthan State and Subordinate Services (Direct Recruitment by Combined Competitive Examination) Rules 1999, it appears again as the same proviso in the Rajasthan Medical & Health Subordinate Service Rules, and RPSC advertisements reproduce it. A widow must furnish a certificate of the death of her husband from the competent authority, and a divorced woman the proof of divorce. The exact terms of relaxation and reservation are given in that recruitment's own advertisement.

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- MNIT Jaipur — B.Tech. in Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://mnit.ac.in/>)
- Rajasthan Technical University and the government engineering colleges affiliated to it — Kota, and Ajmer, Bikaner, Bharatpur, Banswara and other districts (<https://www.rtu.ac.in/>)
- College of Technology and Engineering, Udaipur — including Agriculture Engineering, the fourth optional subject — Udaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.mpuat.ac.in/>)
- Government polytechnic colleges — the diploma route, which leads to Junior Engineer and then to a B.Tech. by lateral entry — In many districts of Rajasthan (<https://dte.rajasthan.gov.in/>)

ONLINE

- जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग, राजस्थान — One of the larger employing departments for Assistant Engineers (<https://phedwater.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- जल संसाधन विभाग, राजस्थान — The department of canals, dams and irrigation works (<https://water.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- स्वयं (SWAYAM) एवं एन.पी.टी.ई.एल. — अभियांत्रिकी के निःशुल्क पाठ्यक्रम, आई.आई.टी. के प्राध्यापकों द्वारा — Government of India (<https://nptel.ac.in/>)
- आर.एस.एस.बी. — पिछले प्रश्न-पत्र, उत्तर कुंजी व पाठ्यक्रम (निःशुल्क) — The Staff Selection Board's own site — the most reliable free preparation material there is (https://rsmssb.rajasthan.gov.in/show_archived?menuName=Xj4lCb9vGxpQnfls%2FxlZ2g%3D%3D)
- विभागीय सेवा नियम (कार्मिक विभाग) — पद की योग्यता व आयु मूल दस्तावेज़ में पढ़ें — The Department of Personnel publishes the service rules for every cadre. Read these before any coaching material — qualification, age and the method of recruitment are settled here and nowhere else. (<https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- स्वयं (SWAYAM) — भारत सरकार के निःशुल्क ऑनलाइन कोर्स — Free (<https://swayam.gov.in/>)
- राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल पुस्तकालय (NDLI) — Free books and study material (<https://ndli.iitkgp.ac.in/>)
- एन.सी.ई.आर.टी. — निःशुल्क पाठ्यपुस्तकें — The foundation for general knowledge, maths and science (<https://ncert.nic.in/>)

FEES

The largest decision about cost is made after Class 12, and it is the choice of college. Four years of B.Tech. at a government engineering college or at MNIT costs several times less than at a private college, and admission goes on JEE Main or REAP marks — so effort here turns directly into money saved. For families for whom private college fees are heavy, one practical sequence is: a polytechnic diploma (which is cheap and itself leads to Junior Engineer), then lateral entry into a B.Tech. at a government college — that way the degree is obtained and there is a rung of employment in the middle. Expensive coaching is not necessary: the optional subject is the one you studied for four years, IIT courses are free on NPTEL, and what the compulsory Hindi paper needs is practice, not fees. Scholarship and fee-reimbursement schemes apply for SC, ST, OBC and EWS students.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana (free coaching, apply via SSO) (<https://sso.rajasthan.gov.in/signin>)
- Rajasthan Social Justice and Empowerment Dept scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- National Scholarship Portal (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in/>)
- Buddy4Study scholarship search (<https://www.buddy4study.com>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

The sub-division offices of the Public Works Department, Public Health Engineering Department, Water Resources Department and other engineering departments — usually at tehsil and district level. The work is divided between the office and the site.

WORK CULTURE

The Assistant Engineer's post is technical and administrative at once, and that is worth knowing in advance. Part of the day goes to the site and part to files, estimates, tenders and payments. There is constant dealing with contractors, public representatives and local people, and that is where the real test of the post lies: holding to the standard of quality while pressure to finish quickly, and conveniently, comes from several directions. The signature you put in a measurement book is a certificate about public money and can come under audit years later — so clean records matter as much on this post as technical skill does. Postings are usually in smaller towns, and transfer is an ordinary part of this service. What comes back is solid: the road, canal or pipeline built under your signature is visible on the ground and lasts for decades.

WHO HIRES

- Public Works Department (PWD), Rajasthan
- The Water Resources Department and irrigation projects
- Public Health Engineering Department (PHED)
- The engineering wings of the urban development, local self-government and rural development departments

DEMAND (2026)

Rajasthan is the largest state in the country by area and work on roads, drinking water, canals and buildings runs continuously, so the need for an engineering cadre is a standing one — particularly in the water-related departments, where the state's geography never lets the work finish. Three things should be known honestly alongside that. First, this recruitment does not come every year and the number of vacancies varies greatly from cycle to cycle. Second, the competition is real, because the number of engineering graduates coming out of the state each year is far larger than these posts. Third, much government construction is done on contract, so a rise in the volume of work does not mean permanent posts rise in the same proportion. Against that is one real advantage: the same degree also works for Junior Engineer, for public undertakings such as the electricity companies, for GATE and the central engineering services, and in the private sector — preparing does not narrow your options. The number of posts describes the department's requirement, not your chances of selection. One thing to be clear about — the "demand" described above counts posts, not your chance of getting one. Selection is by open competition and the number of applicants runs to many times the number of posts, so most candidates are not selected in any given recruitment. That is not an argument against this career; it is an argument against making it your only plan. Keep studying or building a skill alongside your preparation, so that the year is not lost whichever way the result goes.

7 Career growth

- 1 Junior Engineer (JEn) — recruited separately on a diploma or degree; the subordinate post to Assistant Engineer and also a route of promotion into it
- 2 Assistant Engineer — direct recruitment through the combined competitive examination, the gazetted-level entry post
- 3 Executive Engineer — from sub-division to division level, by promotion on experience
- 4 Superintending Engineer — supervision at circle level
- 5 Chief Engineer and Additional Chief Engineer — the top of the department's engineering wing

EARNINGS

Starting	विज्ञप्ति में घोषित पे मैट्रिक्स स्तर के अनुसार
Mid level	₹65,000 - ₹85,000 (भत्तों सहित, कुछ वर्षों बाद)
Senior level	₹1,00,000 से अधिक (भत्तों सहित, अधीक्षण अभियंता एवं उससे ऊपर)

The copy of the 1991 service rules that was read does not give a pay matrix level, so no starting figure is printed on this page — it will be in that cycle's advertisement. This is a gazetted-level entry post requiring an engineering degree, so it sits above Junior Engineer. The mid-level and senior figures above are approximate and are not confirmed from any official document; read them as a direction, not a promise. The starting figure is BASIC PAY, so that it can be compared directly against other careers. Dearness allowance (60% of basic since 1 January 2026) and house rent allowance are added on top of it, so take-home pay is appreciably higher. The mid-level and senior figures are approximate monthly income including allowances, not basic pay. Note — in Rajasthan a direct recruit is a probationer-trainee for the first 2 years and is paid a fixed remuneration, not the pay scale; dearness allowance and house rent allowance are not payable in those two years (Rajasthan Service Rules, rule 7(30A)). The full pay scale applies once probation is completed. The pay matrix level for this post could not be confirmed on this page from an official document — it is not in the service rules and not in the CET Rules 2022 schedule. No level is therefore stated here. The correct figure is printed in the official advertisement for the recruitment; check it there before applying. The figures above rest on the Rajasthan 7th pay matrix, which is what applies as of 17 August 2026. The Terms of Reference of the 8th Central Pay Commission were approved on 28 October 2025 and it must report within 18 months of its constitution. State governments normally adopt a Central Pay Commission with modifications, and later than the Centre does — so Rajasthan pay will be revised too, though by how much and when is not yet settled.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- A gazetted-level entry post — an engineering degree takes you straight into the officer grade
- The work is visible on the ground and lasts for decades
- One examination for engineers of all four branches — civil, electrical, mechanical and agriculture
- The same degree also works for Junior Engineer, public undertakings, GATE and the private sector

The challenges

- The Main is conventional while the preliminary is objective — two different kinds of preparation are needed
- Compulsory Paper-I is Hindi, which an engineering student does not expect
- Pressure from contractors and deadlines, and a constant test of holding to quality
- Postings are usually in smaller towns, and transfer is an ordinary part of the service

9 Sources & further reading

1. Department of Personnel, Rajasthan — Rajasthan State Engineering Services (Direct Recruitment by Combined Competitive Examination) Rules, 1991 — [https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/writereaddata/modulCategory/202406210510158541006stateengineering1991_merged\(1\).pdf](https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/writereaddata/modulCategory/202406210510158541006stateengineering1991_merged(1).pdf)
2. Rajasthan Public Service Commission — advertisements — <https://rpsc.rajasthan.gov.in/advertisements>
3. RPSC — Assistant Engineer recruitment advertisement — <https://rpsc.rajasthan.gov.in/Static/RecruitmentAdvertisements/B4D63B24BC9945BCBB5B7060F679AA38.pdf>

4. Public Health Engineering Department, Rajasthan — <https://phedwater.rajasthan.gov.in/>
5. Rajasthan Staff Selection Board (official) — <https://rssb.rajasthan.gov.in/>
6. Department of Personnel, Rajasthan — service rules — <https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/>
7. 8th Central Pay Commission — Cabinet approval of the Terms of Reference (PIB, 28 October 2025) — <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2183289>

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