


STUDENT ACTIVATION

Systems Test Engineer

For decades, Itron has been delivering critical energy and water infrastructure services and products to customers around the globe—and the company is just getting started. **Systems test engineers** serve as a main resource for Itron’s fast-growing lab automation and information needs. They leverage automation to increase productivity and consistency of labor-intensive manual test processes.

SYSTEMS TEST ENGINEER

Systems test engineers look at both the big picture and individual systems, which are composed of hardware, software, and firmware. Itron products and services go to market with a combination of these elements and a company purpose to be more resourceful with energy and water. The role of systems test engineers is critical to ensuring the components of all systems work together as intended. They collaborate with teams across the business to develop and maintain automation processes for new products. They evaluate, automate, debug, and remediate the automation platform and testing of new products.

IS SYSTEMS TEST ENGINEER A GOOD CAREER FOR ME?

| Me | Network Engineer |
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| I have an analytical mind. I like to solve big problems and increase efficiency. | Systems test engineers are solution-seekers. |
| I enjoy learning how things work. I like to tinker with things and try to make them work better. | Systems test engineers are mechanically minded and innovative. |
| I like working with computers and enjoy learning how to code and program. | Systems test engineers are proficient in multiple programming languages and the use of various systems’ hardware. |
| I am interested in school subjects like science, engineering, technology, and computer science. | Systems test engineers study computer science, computer engineering, and software engineering in college. |
| I enjoy explaining things and listening to the ideas of others. I like group work. | Systems test engineers are strong communicators and good listeners. They enjoy working in teams. |

| How does this career help me? | How does this career help the world? |
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| <p>A systems test engineer is responsible for running tests on the computer systems that keep your energy and water infrastructures working properly and efficiently. Every time you flip the light switch or turn on the tap, it is because of the work of a systems test engineer.</p> | <p>Along with reliability and efficiency, systems test engineers also work hard to drive innovative sustainability efforts. Making processes more sustainable helps the entire planet!</p> |

| What are some similar careers? |
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| <p>Computer systems analysts study an organization’s current computer systems and design ways to improve efficiency.</p> <p>Lean manufacturing engineers are responsible for applying the lean principles and manufacturing methods to the development of products. This reduces waste without sacrificing productivity or product quality.</p> |

Here are ways to practice the skills to be a successful **systems test engineer**:

- Interview people who work in automation, reliability engineering, or process improvement about the role they play in making things more efficient within their organization. Ask about other teams or departments they work with and how problems are addressed in their business. What workplace skills do they find most valuable in their career?
- Discuss with your family something in your lives that doesn’t run smoothly or that your family complains about regularly. It could be the cost of your energy and water bills or something as simple as getting ready and out of the house every morning. Write down a description of the current process or situation and then analyze it to see where there is potential for automating the process. Write a new plan, communicate it with your family, and follow it to see if things run more smoothly.
- Work with your guidance counselor to take any available computer science or programming classes at your school or offered through the local community college.