

NEXT ENGINEERS

OVERVIEW

Next Engineers inspires young people to pursue engineering through hands-on activities, skills development, and career coaching. Funded by the GE Aerospace Foundation, the \$65 million program (2021-2035) equips young people with the tools and the opportunity to advance along the pathway towards a career in engineering.

FHI 360's team of education and workforce development experts designed programs to propel students towards further engineering education, developed a library of teaching and learning materials, and currently manages a global network of organizations that delivers these programs alongside GE Aerospace volunteers.

IMPACT

Since its launch in 2021, Next Engineers has worked alongside GE Aerospace in Cincinnati, Ohio. Starting in 2024, Next Engineers has expanded into Warsaw, Poland, Bengaluru, India, the New York Capital Region, and Grand Rapids, Michigan. Alumni sites, which were supported by GE Vernova, include Greenville, South Carolina; Staffordshire, U.K.; Johannesburg, South Africa.



Next Engineers: Engineering Academy students in Cincinnati visit GE Aerospace facilities.

Photo Credit: GE Aerospace

As of July 2026, Next Engineers had reached more than **34,000 students worldwide** through its three programs. Volunteers from GE Aerospace and GE Vernova have dedicated over **33,000 hours** to Next Engineers, sharing their knowledge and guiding the next generation.

Engineering Discovery introduces students (ages 13-14) to engineering through hands-on sessions led by community partners and GE Aerospace and GE Vernova volunteers in classrooms and communities. These 30-90 minute activities explore scientific concepts like buoyancy, Newton's Laws, and atmospheric pressure, demonstrating their real-world applications in engineering. Volunteers guide students through challenges, share career insights, and answer student questions.

Engineering Discovery activities have partnered with over **115 schools** and have hosted public events, including Engineer Days and Parent Nights.

As of July 2026, **82%** of students who participated in Engineering Discovery activities reported an increased awareness of engineering, and **70%** reported an increased interest – two of the key early indicators linked to building a career in STEM.



Engineering Academy is a transformative two-year experience for students (15–18) to learn how to think and act like engineers and prepare to advance to post-secondary education. Engineering Academy includes a series of immersive design challenges, career coaching, and employability skills workshops to equip youth with the habits of mind and agency they need will need to navigate postsecondary engineering education – and an engineering career.

Engineering Academy graduates who pursue engineering degrees receive partial scholarships from the GE Aerospace Foundation. As of July 2026, graduates had been **awarded \$4 million** in scholarships. **393** Academy participants have graduated, and **68%** of graduates went on to pursue a post-secondary degree or apprenticeship in engineering.

*“Next Engineers not only equipped me with a solid foundation in engineering principles, but it has also **nurtured my curiosity** and problem-solving abilities.”*
- Johannesburg Academy student

Connect:

Visit NextEngineers.org to learn more or
Email us at nextengineers@fhi360.org

Engineering Camp (retired program) was an immersive learning experience for students (ages 14–15) into the engineering process. Guided by experienced faculty, staff, volunteers, and business leaders, campers tackled real-world design challenges like designing mini-golf courses and building bridge prototypes.

Engineering Camp brought students together for a week of experiences that built their identities as engineers, including design challenges, university and industry facility tours, career panels, and mentoring from volunteers.

Across four years of Engineering Camp (2022-2025), over 2,300 students participated in the program. **95%** of campers reported satisfaction with their experience, with **more than half** reporting increases in their Engineering Habits of Mind, including their ability to identify a problem and visualize an engineering solution.



Engineering Camp participants in Staffordshire build their prototype design. Photo Credit: TILG

About FHI 360: FHI 360 is a global organization that mobilizes research, resources and relationships so people everywhere have access to the opportunities they need to lead full and healthy lives. With collaborations in over 60 countries, we work directly with local leaders to improve health and well-being, respond to humanitarian crises and strengthen community resilience. We share data-driven insights and scalable tools so communities can effectively address complex challenges, respond to shocks and achieve thriving futures.

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