

Meet Brionai Sutherland

A Graduate Engineer at John Holland, currently working on the construction of the NSW Government's Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment.



In support of the NSW Government's Hard Work Knows No Gender awareness campaign, we sat down with Brionai to find out why she is pursuing a career in construction and what she enjoys about working on site.

Why are you interested in a career in construction?

I wanted to be out on site every day, not in an office. I wanted to physically see progress on the ground, and to know I was contributing to important projects.

What was the education and training pathway you followed?

I studied a Bachelor of Construction Project Management at UTS. I finished in 2023 and was lucky enough to start with John Holland on the Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment in December that year.

How would you describe your role?

I am a Graduate Engineer. I work on many aspects of the project including in-ground civil works and structure. I am on site most of the day working with subcontractors and the other engineers solving problems and managing issues.

What's the best part of your job?

The variety of work - things are constantly changing and I love that every day is different.

What personal skills and attributes do you need for your job?

Anyone working in construction needs to be good at problem solving, time management and communicating with all different types of people.

Where do you see your career heading in the next 3 years?

I plan to complete the 2 year Graduate Program and become a Site Engineer with John Holland.

What advice would you give to those considering a career in construction?

Get out there and get experience! There are so many different parts of the industry - you need to work out the type of work you want to do by trying lots of different things. Use your contacts to seek out opportunities.

What advice would you give to someone on their first days working on-site?

Try to be out on site as much as possible and meet as many people as you can. Also, accept that you won't know everything from the start!

What do you like about working on the Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment project?

I'm motivated by the fact this is such an important piece of infrastructure for the community.

For more information on Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment, visit:
shoalhavenredevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au

For more information on Women in Construction, visit:
nsw.gov.au/employment/women-construction

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