Packaging engineers formulate and construct innovative packaging systems that increase functionality through the development of materials, design, evaluation, manufacturing process, distribution, and sustainability components. They also address factors related to shelf life, tamper resistance, and quality. Packaging engineers collaborate with colleagues in research and development, manufacturing, marketing, graphic design, and regulatory departments to address technical and marketing challenges.

The Rutgers Packaging Engineering program is the second oldest in the nation and has the distinction of being the only packaging program housed within an engineering school. Student learning includes a multi-disciplinary curriculum drawing from the fields of chemical, industrial, materials, and mechanical engineering, as well as hands-on research, control testing, and product design with actual industry materials, products, and lab equipment. The program opens doors to rewarding packaging careers in industries as diverse as consumer goods, cosmetics, food, and pharmaceuticals with a unique focus on innovation, efficiency, global marketability, and environmental sustainability.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A PACKAGING ENGINEERING DEGREE?

- Packaging Engineer
- Product and Development Engineer
- Design and Manufacturing Engineer
- Process Engineer
- Project Management
- Sustainability Engineer

“Packaging engineering has provided me with a variety of learning and internship opportunities that will help me reach my full potential in a dynamic field.”

Morgan Hemingway

Packaging Engineering Degrees Offered and Curricular Options

- BS Applied Sciences in Engineering
  Packaging Engineering Concentration
- BS/MS Five-Year Dual Degree
- BS/MBA Five-Year Dual Degree
- MS

Packaging Engineering Highlights

- Only US packaging program housed within an engineering school.
- Faculty members include senior executives from major beauty, consumer product, pharmaceutical and food manufacturing corporations.
- State-of-the-art laboratory facilities for 3D design, modeling, and tool cutting software to create original product packaging.
- 100% graduate employment over the past 10 years.

For more information, visit packaging.rutgers.edu
Students gain hands-on business and engineering experience through courses, including innovative packaging design and packaging testing and evaluation. Corporations regularly engage with the program to conduct durability and reliability testing on commercial product packaging, giving students hands-on professional experience.

Packaging engineering students compete nationally in prestigious packaging design and process challenges. Rutgers students were among the top winners for student package design innovations at beauty industry event MakeUp in NY, securing a spot to compete at the international event in Paris.

The packaging engineering curriculum is distinctive in that student learning includes engineering fundamentals and hands-on discovery using actual products, equipment, and real world situations. The program has established partnerships with leading packaged goods companies who work with Rutgers for packaging research and product testing.

Actual products are used in examining the functionality of a package’s properties and its ability to hold up during distribution. Using state-of-the-art equipment and tools, students gain valuable experience testing product viability and preparing analysis reports for corporate clients.

Internships and co-op programs provide students an opportunity to earn up to six degree credits for work experience in an industrial environment and make valuable networking connections—often leading to full-time positions after graduation.

Using engineering principles, students work with corporate partners to model, analyze, and design processes of packaging systems. This final project is the culmination of a student’s learning and experience with a focus on design, innovation, collaboration, and presentation.

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